



Bound by  
WILLIAMS  
10. May 1866





with Anthony Ashley Cooper, the first Lord of Shaftesbury, the Duke of Buckingham, and Lord Salisbury. He seems to have followed the ill-fated prince to Louis XIV.'s Court, for we read that in 1653 the Duke of Monmouth rode a horse of Lord Wharton's to victory for the King's Plate at Echère, near St. Germain. In 1684 the Duke of York, writing to the Countess of Lichfield, mentions that "Lord Godolphin's horse lost all three hats to Mr Wharton's grey gelding." The successful owner alluded to was presumably the future Thomas Lord Wharton. In 1688 the account book of Child's, the famous Fleet-street bankers, show an entry of seven guineas paid by Humphrey Lord Wharton as subscription for the King's Plate at Winchester.

#### That Good Horse Careless.

Thomas Lord Wharton, who came into the title in 1693, and was one of the famous "Junia" with Russell, the victor of La Hogue, and Montagu, the great financier, owned that good horse Careless, by Spanker out of a Barb mare. Careless was the sire of Betty Leedes, the dam of Flying Childers, by the Darley Arabian, whose blood still strongly influences the modern turf. At the Newmarket Spring Meeting in 1698 Careless ran a match with the King's Stiff Dick, entered under the name of the famous Mr Frampton—five miles, a feather to nine-stone for £500—and was beaten, although the odds were 7 to 4 against Stiff Dick. At the same meeting Lord Wharton's Snail was stopped by the spectators in finishing for a heat of the Plate, won by Sir John Parsons, the sporting Lord Mayor of London. At the Spring Meeting of the following year Careless did better, and won a match of six miles for £1900 a side, in which the Duke of Devonshire was a loser. Another horse of Tom Wharton's running in those days was Colchester, and his name appears furthermore in the accounts of the Master of the Horse of that period as having sold horses to the Royal stud. He was Viceroy of Ireland in 1701, and is also mentioned as a member of the Kitcat Club. He was an admirable swordsman, and when Graham Viscount Chertsey, who was returned for Buckinghamshire by the Tories, tried to fasten a quarrel on Tom Wharton in order to dispose of him, he was disarmed in a few passes.

#### Early Racing Studs.

Thomas's son and heir, Philip, who acceded to the title and was created a duke in the same year in which Flying Childers was foaled, owned Rake and Othello, got by Greyhound, who was by Chillaby, King William's White Barb, out of Sludgey, a natural Barb mare. In 1718 his Snail was beaten at Newmarket for 200gs. by Mr Pelham's Brocklesby Betty. Other horses of his were Stripling and Swallow, who ran against that famous horse Fox, bred by Sir Ralph Ashton in the year of Queen Anne's death, by Clumsy out of Bay Peg. Incomplete as are the records indicated above, they nevertheless reveal what good and prominent sportsmen the former bearers of the name of Wharton have been, and if in those future days when peace brings sport once more into its own, the new Lord Wharton should take an active part in racing, he would but add a fitting sequel to the sporting traditions of his ancestors.

## THE GARDEN.

#### THE WOBURN TREES.

OF THE MANY DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF the house of Russell, John, sixth Duke of Bedford, will always be remembered for the great services he rendered to botany, horticulture, and agriculture. This devotion to horticulture was particularly exemplified in the case of his Bedfordshire seat, Woburn Abbey, which in the earlier years of the last century was the centre of great horticultural activity. In 1836 there were over 6000 species and varieties of plants in cultivation at Woburn, including rich collec-

tions of grasses, heaths, cacti, orchids, and willows. These subsequently formed the materials for elaborately illustrated catalogues, which he had privately printed and distributed at his own expense. The duke, like many other great land-owners of his day, paid great attention to arboriculture, and was especially fond of conifers. The immense and finely timbered park of 5000 acres which surrounds Woburn Abbey abundantly testifies to his enthusiasm in this direction. Much of the earlier planting at Woburn was carried out by the fourth duke, who in 1743 laid out the large plantation of about 100 acres on the west side of the park known as the Evergreens.

The *Pinetum Woburnense*, issued by the sixth duke in 1839, with the assistance of his gardener, James Forbes, is an illustrated catalogue of the various conifers originally represented at Woburn; but a great many of the trees which flourished in Forbes's time no longer exist. There are, however, a good number of noteworthy trees still remaining. Among these the palm must be given to the magnificent Lebanon cedars, which are among the finest in the country. The largest of them is 120ft. high, with an immense stem 20ft. in girth. Another probably of the same age is 115ft. high and 19ft. in circumference.

Wellingtonia has done well at Woburn. There are several specimens over 90ft. high, some of which were planted in 1863, and others at a later date. Along a broad green drive known as the Pinetum there are two or three trees of special interest. These include the finest known specimens in England of the North American white spruce (*Picea alba*), also *Larix pendula*, formerly known as *L. dahurica*, which Professor Henry now considers to be a hybrid between the American tamarack and the European larch. This tree is now 92ft. high and 7ft. 6in. in girth; it has a cedar-like bark, and the cones, which it produces in abundance, are extremely variable in size. Several old Weymouth pines have been exceptionally fine trees, but are now much past their best. A feature of the evergreens is the fine old plantation of Scots pine, which contains some picturesque trees. There are well-grown trees of *Abies magnifica* and *A. lowiana*. The best specimen of the latter

fir was over 70ft. high until its top was blown out during a recent storm. The rare Japanese fir *A. firma* is represented by two examples of average size, and there are young and thriving plants of *A. amabilis*, *A. balsamea*, and *A. veitchii*. Several Corsican pines have reached a height of a hundred feet, and a Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) is about as tall. The open part of the park is finely timbered with oak, elm, beech, and chestnut. Loudon, who first visited Woburn in 1825, was much impressed by the fine oaks he found there, and there are still many massive trees. One of the best is that shown in the photograph. It is about 98ft. high, 18ft. round the bole, and has a splendid head. The Abbot oak, on a limb of which, tradition says, the Venerable Abbot of Woburn was hanged in 1637 for refusing to give up his monastery, stands not far from the Abbey. When last measured in 1914 it was 90ft. high and 18ft. in girth. A large limb was blown off it during a recent gale.

Two Haddington elms have attained an exceptional size, one being over 100ft. high and 15ft. in girth. The Woburn beech is, or rather was, the finest tree on the estate. It has a clean, straight bole for 50ft. up, and is 14ft. 10in. in girth. The total height of the tree was about 100ft., and it contained over 600ft. of timber. During the violent gale of Dec. 27 last nearly the whole of the top was blown out, completely spoiling the appearance of the tree. This beech must be nearly 200 years old. There is an old woodcut of it in Pontey's *Forest Pruner*, published in 1805, in which year the tree was about 70ft. high, with a clean bole of 50ft. Loudon also refers to this tree as the celebrated beech at Woburn, which in 1837 was 100ft. high and 12ft. in girth at 4ft. from the ground. These measurements show that the tree has only increased in girth since Loudon's time.

The photograph shows the tree before it was damaged by the gale.

The black Italian poplar has been largely planted at Woburn, and grows everywhere with great vigour. One of the largest trees of it is 130ft. high and over 20ft. in girth. The Japanese keaki (*Zelkora acuminata*); a fine Japan birch

(*Betula papyrifera*), 71ft. high by 7ft. in girth; a silver maple (*Acer dasycarpum*), 73ft. by 10ft.; the white cedar (*Cupressus thyoides*), *Abies grandis*, the American aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), the one-leaved ash (*Fraxinus monophylla*); the cut-leaved alder, *Fraxinus angustifolia*, *Juglans regia*, *Pyrus pinnatifida*, and *Juniperus virginiana* are



A WOBURN OAK, HEIGHT 98FT., GIRTH 18FT.

(Photo: E. J. Wallis.)

other interesting trees in this park. The pleasure grounds contain some splendid English oaks, one of these being 86ft. high, with a massive trunk nearly 19ft. in girth. One of the rarest trees is an old specimen of *Liquidambar orientalis*, 23ft. high.

Among the deciduous trees are *Gleditsia triacanthos*, *G. caspica*, a large cut-leaved hornbeam, the Turkish hazel (*Corylus colurna*), the white mulberry, the red and scarlet oaks *Quercus rubra* and *Q. coccinea*, *Q. Foca*, the maples *Acer macrophyllum* and *A. pennsylvanicum*, the ashes *Fraxinus oregana* and *F. pennsylvanica*, and the sweet buckeye (*Aesculus octandra*). Two small trees of the beautiful Indian chestnut (*Aesculus indica*), raised from nuts sent from Simla in 1837 by the present Duke of Bedford, are now making good growth. But it would take several pages of the *Field* to describe all the interesting trees at Woburn. It is satisfactory to learn that a catalogue of the whole collection is in contemplation. We are indebted to the Duke of Bedford for permission to reproduce the accompanying photographs.

A. BRUCE JACKSON.

#### WOMEN GARDENERS.

WHATEVER DRAWBACKS there may be in farm-work for women, there are fewer in gardening. Women have been steadily pushing their way through the garden gate for the last twenty years, for it was in 1896 that they were first recognised and encouraged by admission into the journeymen gardeners' ranks at Kew. Then there was no need of women's assistance, and, indeed, until the war drew so many gardeners into the Army, there was always a glut of men gardeners—in this country, at any rate. Now, however, there are so few men left to do the work of the garden that women with any training at all are eagerly sought after, whilst the few who have had experience are at a premium. There are thirty women gardeners now employed at Kew, and we are informed that their work, both in quality and quantity, is equal to that of the men whose places they have taken. Their conditions of employment are stated in the following memo:

During the war a limited number of women are employed at Kew to replace gardeners who have enlisted. They are all women who have received a good training in professional horticulture, either in a horticultural college or in a garden of repute, a necessary qualification for the duties to be performed at Kew. The wages for women gardeners occupying the position of journeymen at Kew are 4s. per day. Their working hours are: Summer, 6 a.m. to 8, 8.45 to 12, 1 to 5 p.m.; winter, 8 a.m. to 12, 1 to 4.30 p.m.; Saturday afternoons generally free. Extra pay is allowed for Sunday duty and overtime.

These particulars should serve as a guide to those who wish to employ women gardeners. There is evidence of a desire to pay women less than men for work of this character. On the other hand, we know employers who in fairness to the women have decided to pay them at a higher rate than men, for the very sufficient reason that they are keen, painstaking, and thoughtful, qualities which are too frequently wanting in the average young man gardener. This superiority in the women is easily accounted for. They are well educated, coming, as most of them do, from the well-to-do or middle classes, and they are gardeners from choice, not from necessity. Their training in the art is, as a rule, more theoretical than practical, but when afforded the opportunity they make up for lost time by application and attention to the practical side.

Hitherto, gardening has been a kind of Cinderella among the industries of importance. It is unfortunate in its relationship with agriculture, and the man who keeps the garden, like the toiler in the field, is expected to work long, laborious



THE WOBURN BEECH, 126FT. HIGH, 14FT. 10IN. IN GIRTH AT 5FT.



hours for low pay. In the competition for labour the higher paid industries naturally attract the youths that aim to get on. The advent of women in horticulture is of good omen. They bring intelligence and ambition, and they will insist on reasonable conditions of employment. Another result of their taking up gardening as a suitable calling will be the separation of the heavy drudgery work from that which has a right to be considered art. The artisan has his man, his labourer, to wait on him. A trained gardener need not waste his time in mere digging, hoeing, pot-washing, &c. Such duties are no more gardening than road-making is, and in objecting to them the women are taking the line which men should have taken long ago. Gardening is a most productive and profitable art when practised on the right lines. We are thinking now of the production of plants of economic value rather than of mere decorative gardening, for, valuable as the latter may be when peace and plenty reign, in times of stress like the present it is of little account.

Once upon a time the important requirements of the family, such as bread, beer, and clothing, were home made, just as fruit, vegetables, and flowers are in many establishments home provided to-day. The joy of the garden (we need not consider the other sides of worry and expense) has kept it as a part of the home. Yet there appears to be no good reason why we should not get fruit, vegetables, &c., from the market gardener as we get bread from the baker, beer from the brewer, &c. Many owners of large gardens have solved this problem by letting their orchards and kitchen gardens to professionals, buying from them what is required. The garden in which the attempt is made with a jobbing or ill-trained help to provide the family with fruit and vegetables is very often as expensive as it is irritating. Flat residences have enabled many to get rid of this and other worries of the "commodious residence, with large garden, &c." The weary gardener finds employment in the properly equipped market grower's establishment when this happens. The more one thinks it over the nearer he gets to conviction that private gardens are a mistake.

The produce of the garden will always be in demand. One of the effects of this war will be to cause our people to eat more fruit and vegetables and less flesh than formerly. The British gardener has something to learn from his continental brethren with respect to vegetable growing, or rather to the production of greater variety and a continuous supply, though he has little to learn about fruit, except perhaps in the best methods of storing. And here the women's care and forethought should tell. They train into habits of economy, of fitting ways to means, better than the average men do. Of all the callings which men have looked upon as unsuitable for women, gardening is perhaps the least so.

A pioneer in the movement to prove that women make good gardeners, namely, Viscountess Wolsley, has recently published an interesting account (*In a College Garden* (J. Murray), 6s.) of a training garden for women established by her in the South Downs, not far from Hastings, in which she shows how young ladies fresh from college take to garden work as young ducks take to water. The aim was to grow market garden crops, and the book contains much that should be really helpful to women who have gardening in them. Lady Wolsley thus writes of gardening for women: "Until quite recently many looked down upon the profession of gardencraft, for they imagined it to be a narrow life, restricted as regards its intellectual possibilities; others considered that women were physically unsuited to it. As in all new professions, there were a certain number of failures at the outset, and these were due to a lack of perception on the part of employers, and partly to the fact that the right type of young woman did not take it up. After some sixteen years of budgings and cold-shoulders, a few brilliant examples of the right kind of women gardeners have worked themselves up successfully through a small army of non-competents, and the craft is now an established and coveted one for ladies. The employer, meanwhile, is slowly learning a lesson, and begins to realise that to have a lady as a gardener is a luxury, and must not be considered an economical way of reducing the payment of a living wage. A woman gardener, like all head gardeners, should be paid in proportion to the amount of brain-fag, deception, and other disagreeables that, by honesty and intelligent supervision, she rescues her employer from being the victim of. Then, too, her practical, well-trained skill, her scientific education, deserve remuneration."

It must not be understood from the above that men gardeners have all the virtues and women gardeners all the virtues. As a class gardeners are entitled to respect and admiration for what they have accomplished in the arts of cultivation and breeding. There are black sheep among them, and the percentage of such is not likely to be appreciably lessened by the admission of women to the calling. Our experience of trained women gardeners has been on the whole agreeable. They prove the truth of the old saying that the mare is as good as the horse. We do not think they ought to be expected to do much digging, wheeling, mowing, or tree felling, though many of them are as physically capable as men are. Nor for that matter should trained men gardeners do such work. Navvies' work for navvies, fighting for warriors, mining for miners, each to the calling for which he or she is best suited physically and intellectually. Not that women are unable or unwilling to do these things, for they have done them all. Gardening is one of the peaceful arts, and the higher forms of it are among the most enjoyable, when performed in the proper spirit. Therefore let women do all they feel inclined to do in the garden, for they are able to do it well.

#### GARDEN NOTES AND QUERIES.

**BITTER PIT ON PEARS.**—I had some Marie Louise pears growing on a very dry wall last year which were affected apparently with the above. I put it down to want of water. The fruit ripened prematurely, and was not eatable.—W. A. HAMILTON (Donegal).

**WATER LILIES.**—Hardy water lilies require to be planted in May. They are portable plants, thanks to their fleshy perennial tubers, which will not perish even if kept dry for a month or more. Consequently it is easy to get them in spring from dealers, and to place them in position before they start into growth. One of the leading dealers in these and other hardy aquatics is Messrs R. Wallace and Co., Colchester, whose list of varieties is a very comprehensive one, no less than fifty being described and offered at prices varying from 1s. to 63s. per tuber. Half a dozen of the best of them are Colossea, Ellisiana, Gladstoneana, Gloriosa, *Martiana carne*, and W. Falconer. They require a position where the sun would shine on them most of the day and a depth of water not less than 2ft. and not more than 6ft. The simplest plan for establishing them is to set each tuber in a withy basket of good loam, holding about a bushel, and fixing wire netting over the top to prevent waterfowl and rats from disturbing them. The basket should then be sunk where the plant is to grow, preferably over soil in which the roots can grow after the basket has rotted. Messrs Wallace give the following directions for the prevention of blanket weed, which frequently becomes a nuisance in water, especially where

it is still. They say that the most efficient remedy is copper sulphate, but it is important to remember that, except in minute quantities, copper sulphate is poisonous to the water lilies as well as to the weed; 24oz. of sulphate are sufficient to treat a pond containing 10,000 gallons of water. The simplest method of applying is to tie the crystals in a canvas bag, which can then be trailed over the surface of the water. Another remedy that has been applied with success is permanganate of potash; 1lb. of crystals should be used for a pond of 10,000 gallons. At the proportions given above neither remedy is harmful to water lilies or to fish; in fact, beneficial results have often been observed in their action on fish.

**DAFFODILS POISONOUS?**—I read in the *Field*, April 8, that people have been poisoned through eating daffodil bulbs. Are the tops also poisonous? We have a lot in our orchard (the common double ones), also crocuses and snowdrops. Two cows which have been fed on the hay made in the orchard have for no apparent reason died. They just dwindled away ("turned twint") as they used to say; have you ever heard this expression? Do you think the daffodils (the tops not having died in June) would have anything to do with this? There are also a few Austrian pines, which, of course, drop their needles, and which might get into the hay. Would they be injurious?—K. F. (Oxon). [We do not believe the death of the cows was caused by the daffodil leaves or the pine needles being mixed in the hay, as we have a meadow in which daffodils have been planted thickly for spring effect and by the side of which pine trees grow, and the hay from the meadow has been used for years as fodder for horses without any ill-effects.—Ed.]

**BRACKEN FRONDS AS A VEGETABLE.**—I think I remember that some years ago you published an article on the use of young bracken as a vegetable and gave directions for cooking it. In view of the large number of H.M. ships now based on the northern ports, where bracken is plentiful, but where the ordinary vegetables are very scarce, I think it might be of considerable value if you could reprint the article. The *Field* is taken in by practically every man-of-war, and I expect a large number of naval officers and men would be glad to try bracken if they could get information as to its preparation.—C. W. LUCKHAM, Fleet Paymaster. [We cannot find any record of the use of the young fronds as a food vegetable, either in Japan or elsewhere, and the fact that no browsing animal will eat them may be taken as evidence that they are not palatable to stock. It is stated that in former times green bracken was used as fodder, and the young fronds when boiled have been used to feed pigs. The rhizomes are evidently the most nourishing part of the plant, being rich in starch. It is said that bracken roots are eaten by the Maories in New Zealand. Possibly some of our readers may be able to say if the young fronds of bracken are eaten as a vegetable in this country.—Ed.]

**STAR DAHLIAS.**—The star dahlias raised by Messrs Cheal and Sons, Crawley, are a really valuable addition to summer bedding plants, being easy to grow, practically self-supporting, very free flowering, the flowers are on long stalks, and their form and appearance suggest the Japanese anemone,

that is, these are several rows of florets loosely arranged round a small bright yellow disc in such a way as to be quite as decorative as the best of the wind flowers. There are three popular varieties, namely, Crawley Star, rose pink; White Star, pure glistening white; and Worth Star, pink and white bars. Messrs Cheal advertise two new varieties of star dahlias for this year, namely, Yellow Star, primrose yellow; and Northern Star, deep satiny rose. The plants when at their best are about 4ft. high, and they flower most freely and continuously. A large round bed in an open place on a lawn is an ideal place for them, and they are most effective when the three kinds are mixed in the bed. Another excellent quality of the flowers is that of lasting a long time after being cut and placed in water, so that they have a special value for room decoration. Like other dahlias these star kinds should be planted in deep, well-manured soil not earlier than the first week in June, and they should be set quite a yard apart each way. By sprinkling lime or soot over the surface of the soil after planting slugs are prevented from eating the young plants. Dahlias enjoy moisture at the root, and in hot weather a mulch with rotted stable manure is good for them.

**MANURE FOR ROSES.**—The American gardeners are very successful growers of roses on what is called the express system, that is more or less forcing, with the use of special fertilisers. Professor F. W. Muncie recently read a paper before the Illinois Florists' Association in which he gave a summary of a bulletin on Fertilisers for Roses. The best time to apply an artificial stimulant is in spring, when the roses are making growth, and again in autumn, should they be in active growth then. Sulphate of ammonia and dried blood are both applied, but the former is apt to over stimulate, as also does nitrate of soda, which is sometimes used for roses. The Professor therefore recommended the use of dried blood only at the rate of 5lb. per 100 square feet, two applications of this to be made at an interval of six weeks. He also recommended the use of superphosphate in the proportion of 40lb. per 100 cubic feet of soil, with which it should be well mixed at the time of making up beds for forcing roses under glass. It may also be used as a top dressing, the only drawback to this being the tendency to cause the roots to form near the surface of the soil. The mixing of lime or limestone with soil intended for roses was not advisable. Roses treated as above recommended gave a large crop of flowers and good long stems, this latter quality being of importance in America, where the longer the stems of the flowers the higher the prices they fetch. For example, the prices of cut flowers of American Beauty rose in Chicago last month were, 48in. to 60in. stems, 20s. per dozen; 36in. stems, 10s. per dozen; 30in. stems, 12s. per dozen; 24in. stems, 10s. per dozen. A rose with a stem 5ft. long would be a novelty in this country.

**The Emergency Voluntary Aid Committee.**—With reference to our notice last week of the Café Chantant, we are informed that Queen Alexandra has given it her patronage, but has not promised to attend.

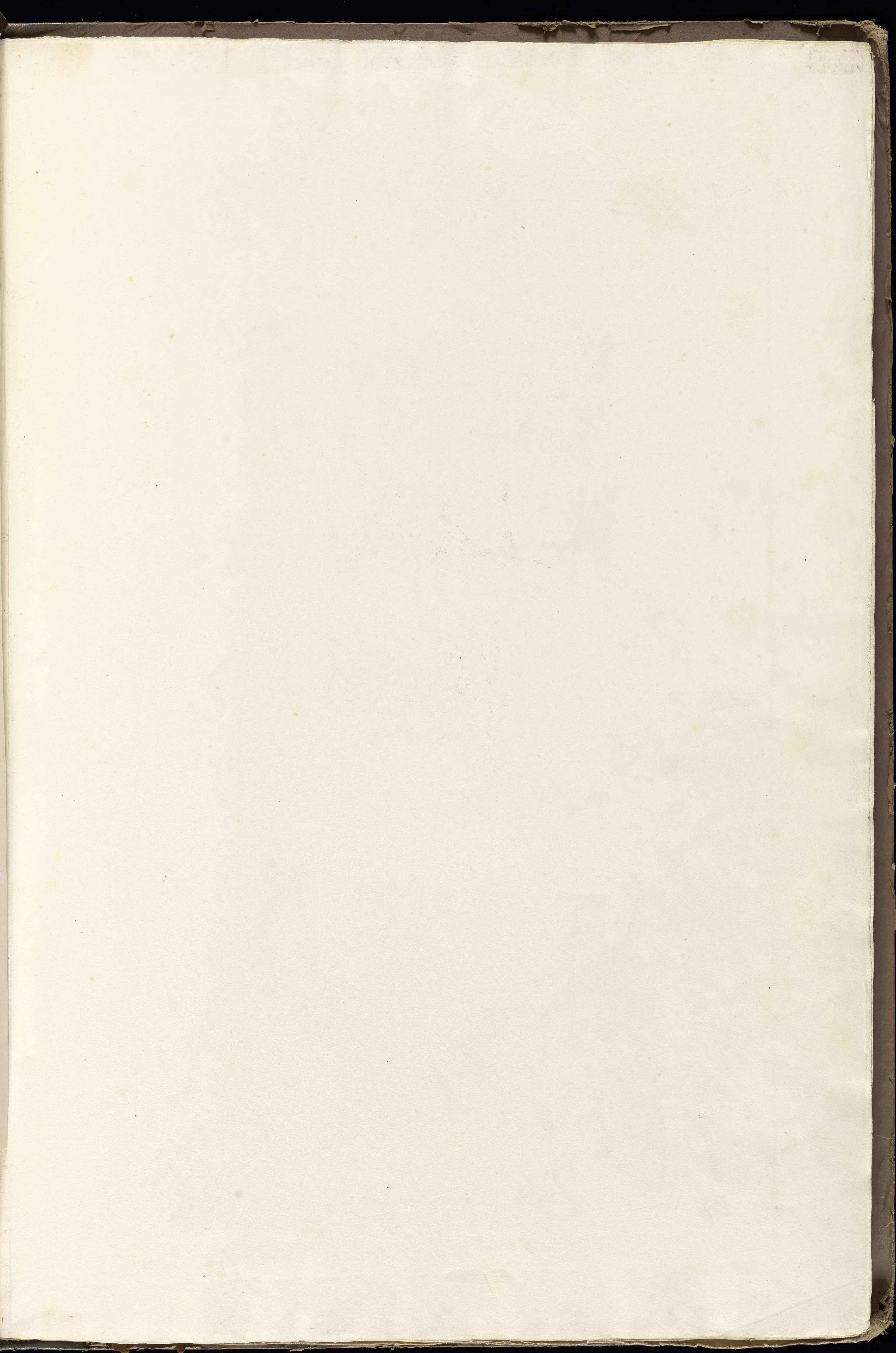


LIEUT. P. RANDALL JOHNSON, 8TH DEVON REGIMENT.

This brilliant New Zealand cricketer was in the Eton and Cambridge elevens, and made all too short an acquaintance with county cricket. He played for Somersetshire, and in 1908 scored 603 runs for his county in four games (eight innings the highest being 164).

**BARR'S VEGETABLE AND FLOWER SEEDS** of Finest Selected Strains and Tested Growth. Awarded the R.H.S. Gold Medal and Two Silver-gilt Knightian Medals. Barr's Hardy Border Perennials, Rock Plants, Lilies, Gladioli, Begonias, Cannas, Ranunculus, &c., for Spring planting. Descriptive Catalogues free.—BARR & SONS, King-street, Covent Garden, London.—[ADVT.]







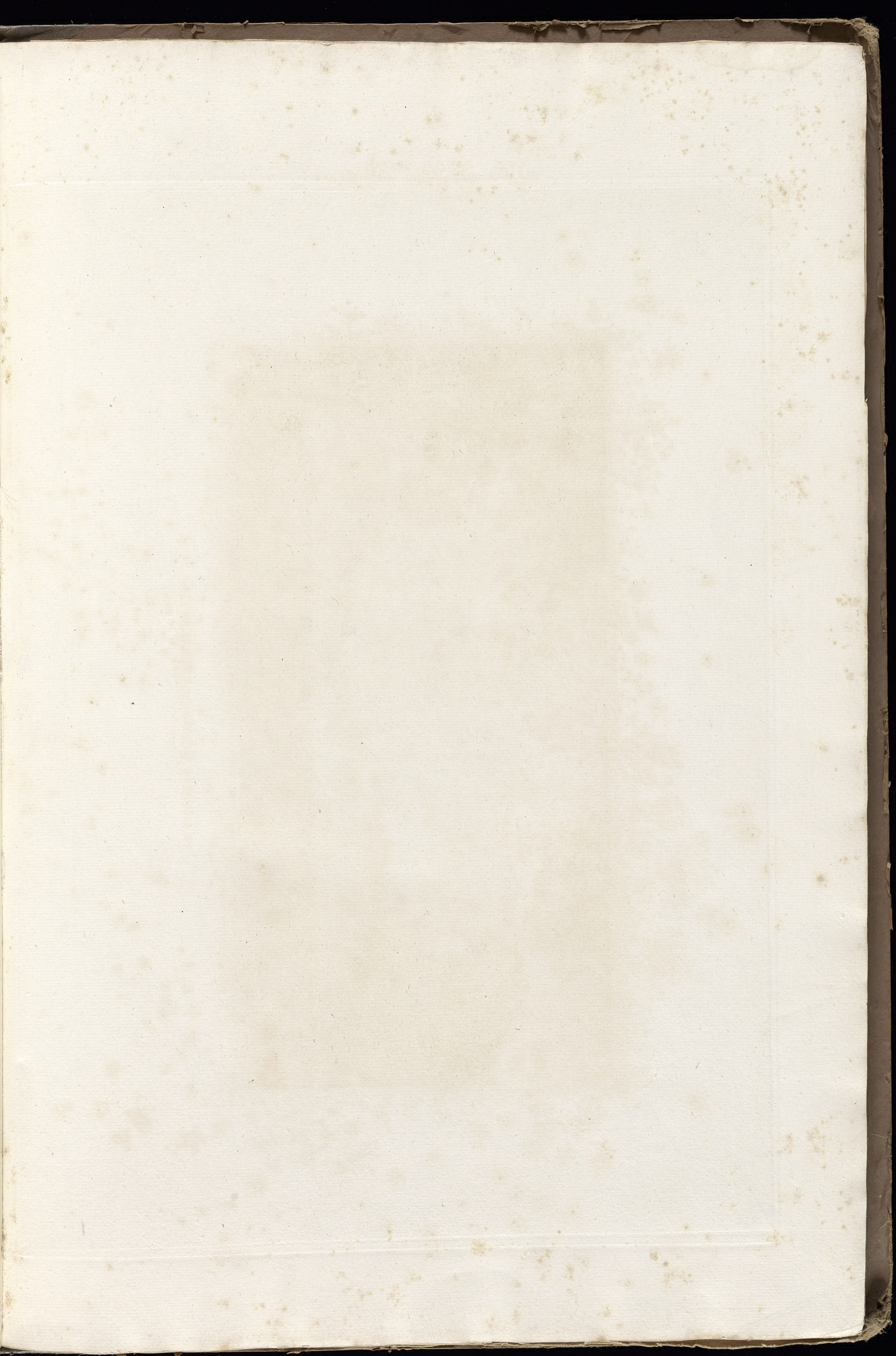
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Large Paper India Proof copy

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M. G. G. del.

Chas. P. G. sculp.

NORTH FRONT OF ASHRIDGE, AS IT WAS IN 1768.

Printed by M. D. G.



THE  
HISTORY  
OF THE  
**College of Bonhommes,**  
AT  
**Ashridge,**  
IN THE  
COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM,  
FOUNDED IN THE YEAR 1276,  
BY  
**EDMUND, EARL OF CORNWALL.**

COMPILED FROM ORIGINAL RECORDS AND OTHER AUTHENTIC SOURCES.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,  
A DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENT MANSION,  
ERECTED ON THE SITE OF THE ANCIENT COLLEGE.



" A pleasanter place than Ashridge is, hard were to find,  
" As Skelton rehearseth with words few and plain,  
" In his distichon, made in verses twain:  
" *Fraxinus in clivo frondet que viret sine rivo,*  
" *Non est sub divo similis sine flumine vivo.*"  
SKELTON'S *Crown of Laurel*, published in 1523.

London:  
PRINTED BY R. GILBERT,  
ST. JOHN'S-SQUARE.  
1823.



THE  
HISTORY

OF THE  
CITY OF BIRMINGHAM

AND  
COUNTY OF BUCKINGHAM

BY  
EDWARD B. EARLE OF CORNWALL

EDWARD B. EARLE OF CORNWALL

EDWARD B. EARLE OF CORNWALL

EDWARD B. EARLE OF CORNWALL

EDWARD B. EARLE OF CORNWALL

EDWARD B. EARLE OF CORNWALL



EDWARD B. EARLE OF CORNWALL

EDWARD B. EARLE OF CORNWALL



TO

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

**JOHN-WILLIAM,**

EARL OF BRIDGEWATER,

VISCOUNT BRACKLEY, AND BARON OF ELLESMERE,

THE

FOLLOWING HISTORY

OF THE

**Ancient College of Bonhommes, at Ashbridge,**

WHICH IN LATER TIMES BECAME THE RESIDENCE OF HIS LORDSHIP'S NOBLE

ANCESTORS, AND UPON THE SITE OF WHICH HIS OWN SPLENDID

MANSION HAS BEEN SINCE ERECTED,

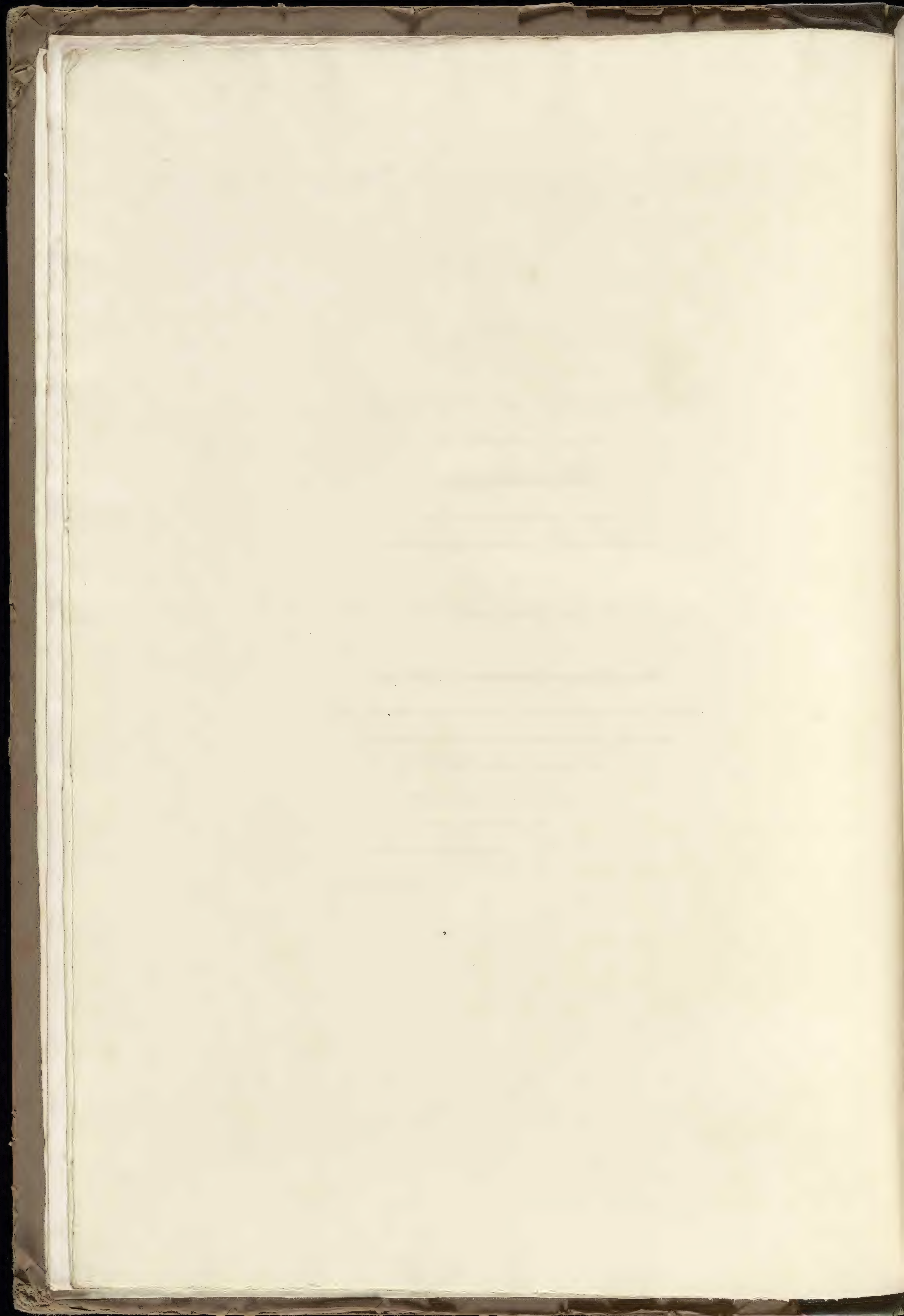
IS WITH THE MOST GRATEFUL RESPECT INSCRIBED,

BY HIS LORDSHIP'S HIGHLY OBLIGED

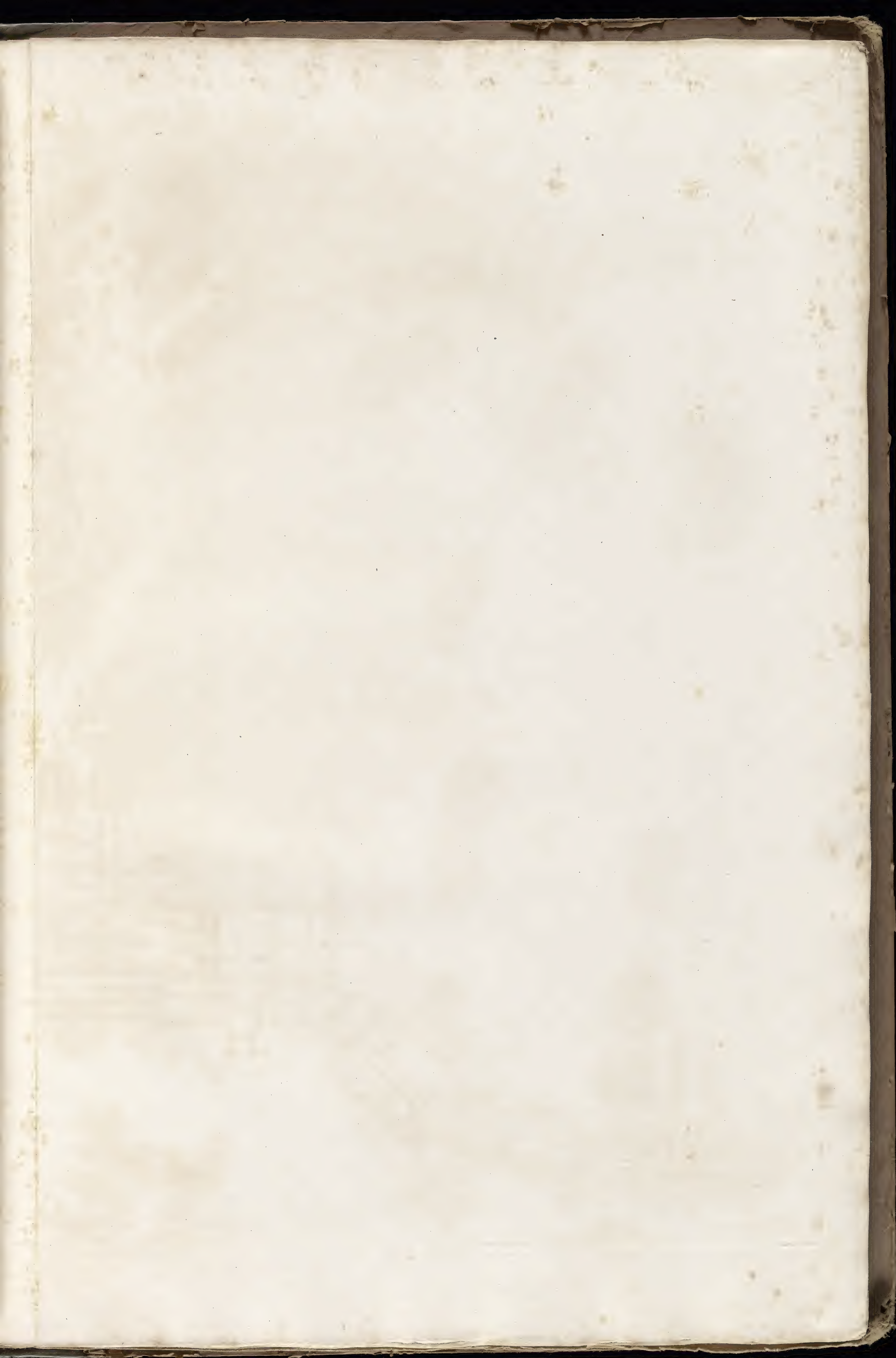
AND FAITHFUL CHAPLAIN AND SERVANT,

HENRY JOHN TODD.













James Watt, Archt R.A. (desig)  
 John Wyatville, Archt R.A. (desig)

Scale 1" = 20' 0"

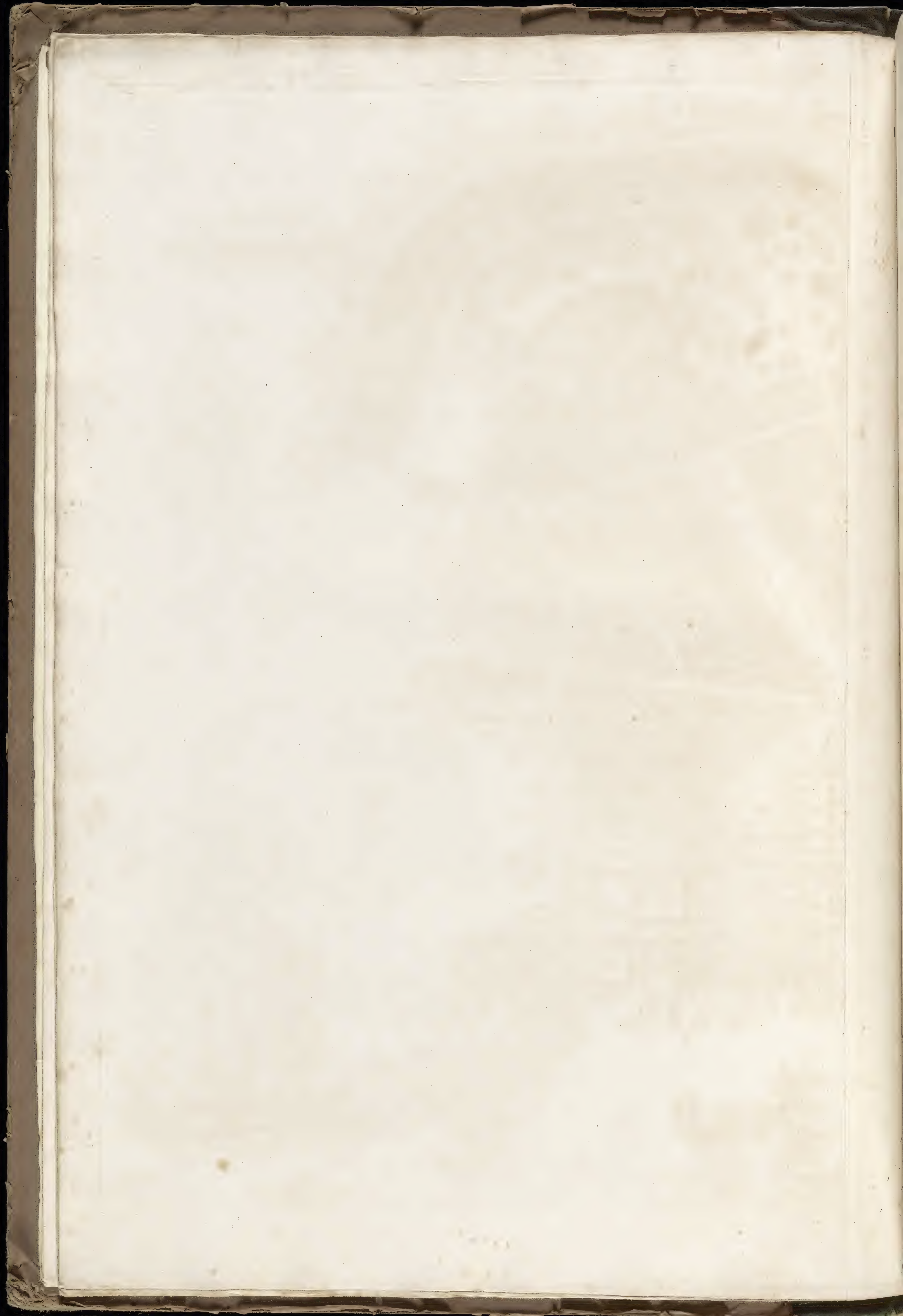


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Buckinghamshire Hertfordshire







## P R E F A C E.

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THE history of religious houses has afforded, and will long afford, employment equal to the ardour of the most industrious antiquary. The COLLEGE of ASHRIDGE has exercised the diligence of Dugdale and Tanner, of Kennet and Willis; men, to whose exertions any superstructure of modern research must be indebted, both for strength and dignity. To intermix their treasures with some collections of later writers, and with new means of information which the Noble Owner of ASHRIDGE has supplied, is therefore the object of the following pages. To the compiler of them it has been a pleasure thus to connect dispersed, and hitherto unexplored, materials; a pleasure, however, diminished by the consciousness, that his narrative is not equal to the subject; and that perpetual citation requires the relief of ingenious disquisition. What was in his power, he has done faithfully. From records, belonging to the demesnes of ASHRIDGE, with which he became acquainted through the EARL of BRIDGEWATER's friendly means, long before the death of the late possessor, the illustrious DUKE of BRIDGEWATER; and from other documents, which passed, according to the DUKE's bequest of his books and manuscripts, to the present MARQUIS of STAFFORD; have been extracted many curious particulars of ASHRIDGE while a Convent, and after it became the residence of Lord Chancellor EGERTON and his



descendants. Thus from the retiredness of monastick manners the reader will be led to many notices of courtly splendour; and finally, from the demolition of this ancient edifice, to the mansion erected on nearly the conventual site, perpetuating the venerable name of ASHRIDGE.

In closing the present compilation with a <sup>a</sup> description of this splendid mansion, the masterly design of that accomplished <sup>b</sup> architect, Mr. James Wyatt, I must not omit my respectful thanks to Mr. Jeffry Wyatt, his nephew; who to the original plan and architecture, with great taste and skill, has <sup>c</sup> made several additions.

H. J. T.

<sup>a</sup> See Sect. VII.

<sup>b</sup> See pp. 74. 77.

<sup>c</sup> See p. 77.



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CORRECTIONS.

P. 1. *in the notes*, col. 2. *for* 1721 *read* 1271.

P. 25. *for* gentleman *read* gentlemen.

P. 26. *at the sum* 416*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.* add, there is the sum of 20*l.* wanting, in order to render the sum total in agreement with the salaries apportioned. A greater difference as to these salaries is observable in page 27, note a. col. 1.

P. 26. *for* 173*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* *read* 137*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.*

P. 34. *for* any manner service *read* any manner of service.



# HISTORY

OF THE

## COLLEGE OF ASHRIDGE.

### SECT. I.

#### THE FOUNDATION OF THE COLLEGE. THE FOUNDER.

ASHRIDGE, formerly written *Esserugge*, *Aescrugge*, *Asserugge*, and *Ascherugge*, is in the parish of Pitstone, or Pichelestorne, and sometimes written Pichelesthorne, which is in the hundred of Cotslow, and deanery of Muresley, in the county of Buckingham; and has been considered by some to have been a <sup>a</sup> royal residence before the foundation, as it is known to have been after the dissolution, of the College. The name is derived from <sup>b</sup> *a hill set with ash-trees*; the oldest denomination of the place being *Aescrugge*, from *aesc*, as the ash-tree was first called, afterwards *ashche*; and from *rugge*, signifying a hill or steep place, afterwards written *ridge*.

The College, <sup>c</sup> completed in 1285, was founded by Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, son and heir of Richard, Earl of Cornwall, and <sup>d</sup> King of the Romans, for a <sup>e</sup> rector and twenty brethren or canons, called *Bonhommes*, of whom thirteen were to be priests. Of this religious order there was no establishment in England before this event. The Earl of Cornwall

<sup>a</sup> "The house of Bonehommes, called Ascherugge, of the foundation of Edmunde, Erle of Cornewale, and owner of Berckhamstede Castel, is about a mile off; and *there the king lodged*." Leland, Itin. vol. i. p. 118. (ed. Ox. 1744.)

<sup>b</sup> Norden's Description of Hartfordshire, 4to. 1596; and Kennet's Parochial Antiquities. Brown Willis, in his manuscript description of the College, gives the same derivation of the name of *Ashridge*; but considers the place to have been of no account before the foundation of the College, on account of its being in various parishes: "That it was of no account," he says, "before the settlement of a Convent here, we may easily conceive from its lying in three or four different parishes, temp. Edw. I." The modern historian of the Abbey of St. Alban's follows those writers, who tell us that Richard, King of the Romans, chose the spot of Ashridge, in the midst of woods, for a house of pleasure, and perhaps as commodious for the sports of the field; and that it thus became the occasional residence of royalty. See Newcome's Hist. of St. Alban's, p. 301.

<sup>c</sup> Though the Monasticon of Dugdale represents the foundation to have been established in 1276; yet, by what Kennet remarks, the endowment was not completed till 1283, and the structure of the College not finished till 1285.

<sup>d</sup> This earl being a person of high repute for his heroic and noble endowments, certain nobles of Almain, arriving here, represented to the whole Baronage of England, then met in

Parliament, that he was elected King of the Romans by unanimous consent of the Princes of the Empire. Chauncy, Hist. of Hertf. p. 573. He was crowned King, and his Countess Queen, of the Romans, with great splendour, in the presence of the Archbishops of Cologne, Mentz, &c. Brady's Compl. Hist. of Engl. p. 621. He died at Berkhamsted Castle in 1721. His heart was buried in the Church of the Friars Minors in Oxford, and his body in that which he built at his own charge for the Monks of the Cistercian Order de Hailes. Ibid. p. 665. Pope Innocent IV. offered him the kingdom of Sicily and Naples, but upon so many impossible conditions, that his agent at Rome observed, "You might as well say to my lord and master, I sell or give you the moon; climb up, catch it, and take it!" Camden, Rem. p. 336. Alexander, the successor of this Pope Innocent, sent to the Earl Richard to borrow a great sum of money; when the Earl answered, "I will not lend to my superiour, upon whom I cannot distrain for the debts." The Earl is said to have had so great treasure, that he was able to dispend for ten years an hundred marks a day, which according to the standard of that time was no small sum! Ibid. p. 337.

<sup>e</sup> The superiours of the houses of the *Bonhommes* were called *Rectors*, and one of them was styled *President of the Order*. "Quorum superiores Rectores vocabantur, et unus eorum erat et vocabatur Ordinis Præses." Reyneri Apostolat. Benedict. in Anglia, tr. i. 165.



<sup>f</sup> introduced them into the kingdom: but their <sup>g</sup> influence was never extensive. They were brought out of the South of France, at a time when there prevailed in that country a sect, who called themselves *Boni Homines*, and were termed, in the Gascon dialect of the vulgar, *los Bos Homes*. Mr. Newcome, in his history of the Abbey of St. Alban's, terms them a sect of mysticks; approaching, as some thought, to Manichæism, and by some confounded with the <sup>h</sup> Albigenses; but, in truth, according to Mosheim, a remnant of the ancient Paulicians.

That the Bonhommes of Ashridge, however, were nearly allied to the Albigenses, Mr. Newcome has been desirous to prove by what remained of the old paintings on the walls of the cloisters of this College; where, though the figures when he saw them in 1794 or 1795, were much decayed, sufficient argument was exhibited that the subjects were all chosen to deride the Preaching Friars and the Minorites. "These two orders," he observes, "having been introduced into England about the year 1221, had affected superiour holiness and purity, and pretended to absolute poverty and self-denial; yet they built nobly and lodged superbly. They had thus drawn on them the odium of all the ancient orders, and were ridiculed on all occasions, where carving or painting could exhibit their true colours. And especially did these orders receive a double share of ridicule and contempt from the Albigenses; because, against them, and to preach down their antipapistick doctrines, had these orders been at first instituted and encouraged."

It is believed that no more houses of the order were founded in England, except that of <sup>i</sup> Edingdon in Wiltshire; though <sup>k</sup> some have considered that of Gaunts in Bristol to have been of this description. They followed the rule of St. Austin, and are said, but not accurately, to have <sup>l</sup> worn a sky-blue habit. So Sir Robert Atkyns has asserted in the beginning of his History of Gloucestershire; and Sir Henry Chauncy has, in his History of Hertfordshire, further asserted, that the Bonhommes "were, according to the manner of the *Eremitans*, clad in sky-coloured garments." Now the Monks, called *Eremitæ*, or *Eremicolæ*, wore a grey or ashy-coloured dress, as the brethren of Ashridge are expressly required by their Statutes to wear. This is illustrated in a very curious <sup>m</sup> work, exhibiting the figures and dresses of the monastick orders, published in 1585; with verses describing particulars of each; and of the Eremites, the following.

" Si cinis omnis homo, in cinerem quandoque resolvi  
Debet, quis debet gratior esse color?  
Vilia quàm mea qua me inducere membra videtis  
Est vestis, semper me admonet ille mei."

The College at *Ashridge* was founded expressly in honour of the precious blood of the holy Jesus; and the occasion of so remarkable a dedication is not omitted by our historians.

"<sup>n</sup> Edmund, the son and heir of Richard Earl of Cornwall, who was second son to King John, being with his father in Germany, and there beholding the reliques and other precious monuments of the ancient emperours, he espied a box of gold, by the inscription whereof he perceived (as the opinion of men then gave) that therein was contained a portion of the blood of our blessed Saviour. He therefore, being desirous to have some part thereof, by fair intreaty and money obtained his desire; and brought the box over with him into England;

<sup>f</sup> Reyner falsely dates their introduction in 1290. Leland and Kennet in 1283.

<sup>g</sup> Harpsfield, however, has given this character of them, in his Eccl. Hist. "Reverà multi nomini suo respondebant, *Boni Homines*." The *Bonnes Hommes*, though planted in monasteries, are represented to have borne in other countries the character of distinguished sanctity; and to have retained that character, when brought into this country. See Newcome's Hist. of St. Alban's, p. 300.

<sup>h</sup> "BONI HOMINES, *Albigenses* hæretici, qui ita se se appellabant, ut auctor est Monachus Vallis Sarnensis in Hist. Albig. c. 4. sub. fin." V. Du Cange in voce.—Du Cange mentions another order bearing the same name: "BONI HOMINES, præterea dicti Fratres Ordinis Grandimontensis."

<sup>i</sup> Dr. Bush, the last Visitor of the College of Ashridge, was

a Bonhomme of Edingdon. See the note preceding the list of the Rectors of Ashridge.

<sup>k</sup> Reyner mentions no other than that of Edingdon. Leland, in his Itinerary, and Kennet, after him, call the Society of Gaunts, *Bonhommes*. Dr. Nasmith, in his elaborate edition of Bishop Tanner's Notitia Monastica, rejects this designation; which Tanner, however, had admitted.

<sup>l</sup> See the Statutes of the College, in the next Section of this Work.

<sup>m</sup> Pontificiorum Ordinum Omnium omnino Utriusque Sexus Habitus, artificiosissimis figuris, quibus Francisci Modii singula octosticha adjecta sunt, nunc primum Judoco Ammanno expressi. 4to. Francof. 1585. sign. G. ii.

<sup>n</sup> Holinshead, Chronicle of Eng. vol. ii. 475.



bestowing a third part thereof, after his father's decease, in the Abbey of Hailes, which his father had founded, and wherein his father and mother were both buried; whereby to enrich the said monastery; reserving the other two parts in his own custody; till at length, moved upon such devotion as was then used, he founded an abbey at *Asserugge* in Hertfordshire, a little from the manor of Bercamsted, in which he placed the monks of the order of *Bonhommes* (Good Men), being the first that had ever been of that order in England; and assigned to them and their abbey the other two parts of the sacred blood."

From the annals of the monastery of Hailes, or Hales, in the county of Gloucester, Reyner has described the ceremony with which the pretended treasure was deposited in that monastery, the Earl himself officiating on the occasion as the bearer of it; the donation of part of it to this College of Ashridge; and the propriety of the veneration thus paid to it. But his account differs from that of the preceding historian; as it makes no mention of any part of the treasure having been reserved in the custody of the Earl, and asserts what was given to Ashridge to have been taken from Hailes. Whether this was intended to exalt the consequence of the latter, and diminish the celebrity of the former, would be now a hopeless inquiry! Certain it is, that the notoriety of the blood in Hales at length occasioned it to be ranked among the oaths of our ancestors; a distinction, to which the blood in Ashridge never arrived. Thus Chaucer, in the *Pardoner's Tale*:

" Vengeance shal not parten from his hous,  
That of his othës is outrageous.  
By Goddes precious herte, and by his nailes,  
And by the blood of Crist that is in Hailes."

The account given by Reyner is extremely curious.

"<sup>p</sup> Narratur Edmundus, Cornubiæ Comes, cùm in Alemanniâ cum rege patre suo adhuc puer versaretur, et inter ornamenta imperialia firmaculum grande aureum conspexisset plenum reliquiis pretiosi Sanguinis Dominici, quod Carolo magno ex Græciâ summi muneris loco missum fuisset, obtinuisse ut inde sibi pars magna daretur, quam vasculo aureo inclusam secum in Angliam detulerit; et, extracto in honorem ejus Monasterio de Hales, ad cujus basilicam solenni processione, comitantibus utrinque conventu Halensi Cisterientium, et Winchelcumbensi Benedictinorum monachorum, ipsomet Edmundo comite devotionis causâ bajuli officium faciente, vasculum pretiosum delatum est, ibique repositum; unde postea partem desumptam in hoc Coenobio *Esseburgiæ* Bonorum Virorum ob honorem ejusdem Sanguinis ædificato concessit. Nec debet alicui miram aut rem novam videri edificatam fuisse ab hoc nobilissimo Comite Ecclesiam et Coenobium in honore Dominici Sanguinis inibi conservandi. Non enim eo loco aut tempore primum, sed longè antè et in pluribus aliis Christiani Orbis ecclesiis, factum legimus, ut summo cum honore ac veneratione conservarentur particulæ Dominici Cruoris; sive ejus, qui simul cum aquâ ex latere Christi Domini jam mortui defluxit; sive qui in circumcisione fuit decisis; quem ad fidelium suorum devotionem in terris voluit idem Dominus Christus relinqui, non quidè divinitati suæ hypostaticè unitum, sed tamèn ob contactum pretiosi corporis sui, in quo aliquando fuerat, honorabilem; quomodo crucem ejus sanctam ob eundem contactum veneramur. Sanguinem autèm Christi in quibusdam adhuc ecclesiis servari perhibetur; ut Romæ, in basilicâ Lateranensi: Et Brugis in Belgio annua et celebris fieri consuevit supplicatio in honorem Dominici Cruoris, qui collectus dicitur à Nicodemò et Ioseph, cum Christum de cruce deponerent, et in monumento collocarent. De quâ historiâ Molanus in Natalibus Sanctorum Belgii, ad 3. diem Maii. Sed et Nicephorus, lib. 1. historiæ c. 20. refert Beatam Virginem, et Beatum Joannem Evangelistam, sanguinem à Christi latere manantem vasculo decenti religiosè excepisse; ut et Metaphrastes, ad 15. Augusti. Nec profectò ulli dubium esse debet, quin omne illud quod ad sacrum Christi corpus et vestimenta pertinuerit, præsertim Passionis tempore, fideles Christiani magnâ curâ conservaverint."

Nor was this the first<sup>q</sup> import of the treasure, if we believe the Romish legends; which tell us, that Joseph of Arimathea brought into Britain two silver vessels filled with the blood of our Saviour; which, by his order, were buried in his tomb. And to King Henry was sent

<sup>p</sup> See the note <sup>q</sup>, p. 1.

<sup>p</sup> Apost. Benedict. tr. i. 165, 166.

<sup>q</sup> Kennet's Paroch. Antiquities.



a crystal, containing a portion of the same blood, from the Master of the Temple at Jerusalem; attested with the seals of the Patriarch: which treasure, on the day of St. Edward's translation, the King committed to his Church of St. Peter's in Westminster; and obtained, from the Bishops then present, the indulgence of six years and one hundred and sixteen days, to all that should come to visit and venerate that sacred relick. Thus Matthew Paris relates, that the King summoned his Nobles and Prelates to celebrate in 1249 the Feast of St. Edward in St. Peter's Church, adding the motive, viz. *Pro veneratione sancti Sanguinis Christi nuper adepti*. To the instances of churches in which this blood was kept, as related by Reyner, it may be added, that, among the relicks in the Abbey of Fescamp in Normandy, was pretended to be the true blood of Christ, as preserved by Nicodemus when he took the body from the cross; given to the said abbey by William Duke of Normandy, buried by his own son Duke Richard, again discovered in 1171, and attended with infinite miracles.

In the times of ignorance the imposition was successful, and brought multitudes to *Hailes* and *Ashridge*. But at the Reformation the cheat was discovered and exposed; of which the relation is thus given by Speed.

"*Ashridge* [was] in great repute for the blood (supposed out of Christ's sides) brought out of Germany by [Edmund], eldest son of Richard King of the Romans and Earl of Cornwall; whereto resorted a great concourse of people for devotion and adoration thereof. But when the sunshine of the Gospel had pierced through such clouds of darkness, it was perceived apparently to be only honey clarified and coloured with saffron, as was openly shewn at Paul's Cross, by the Bishop of Rochester, 24th Feb. 1538." The veneration, paid to this relick, had also inclined many to bequeath their bodies to be buried in the church of *Ashridge*; which proved a great advantage to the Rector and Brethren of the College.

The reason of the College being founded in honour of the blood of Christ having been explained, the Charter of foundation is the next object of notice. By this Charter, the confirmation of which is dated at Langley (in the county of Herts) 17th April in the fourteenth year of King Edward the First, the founder gave to God, and the Blessed Mary, and the Rector and Brethren of the College, his Manor of *Ashridge*, with *Pichelestorne*, his Manor of *Little Gaddesden*, his Manor of *Hemel-Hempsted*, and other possessions, with numerous rights and privileges; which the following deed exhibits; not without the correction of some verbal inaccuracies of *Dugdale*, and of those who have followed him, in reciting this curious Charter.

"*Edwardus, Dei Gratia, Rex Anglie, Dominus Hibernie, Dux Aquitannie, Archiepiscopis, Episcopis, Abbatibus, Prioribus, Comitibus, Baronibus, Justiciariis, Vicecomitibus, Prepositis, Ministris, et omnibus Ballivis, et fidelibus suis, salutem. Inspeximus Cartam, quam dilectus consanguineus et fidelis noster Edmundus, Comes Cornubie, fecit Deo et Beate Marie ac Rectori Bonorum Virorum Fratrum Ecclesie in honore preciosi sanguinis Ihu Christe apud Esserugge fundate, et Bonis Viris eiusdem loci fratribus ibidem Deo servientibus, in hec verba. Sciant presentes et futuri, quod nos Edmundus clare memorie Ricardi Regis Alemannie filius et Comes Cornubie dedimus concessimus et hac presenti Carta nostra confirmavimus, pro nobis et heredibus nostris, Deo*

\* This account is professed to be copied from Speed by G. Hooker, in his *Memorabilia Mundi, or Choice Memoirs, &c.* 12mo. 1670, in which he dignifies *Ashridge* by the name of *Ashridge Town*, and calls Edmund *Henry*. Bishop Burnet says, that the pretended blood, at least that part of it assigned to *Hailes*, was discovered to have been the blood of a duck. See his account of that at *Hales, Hist. Reform. Ch. of England*, B. iii. sub. ann. 1538. "There was another famous imposture discovered at *Hales* in Gloucestershire; where the blood of Christ was shewed in a vial of crystal, which the people sometimes saw, but sometimes they could not see: so they were made to believe, that they were not capable of so signal a favour, as long as they were in mortal sin; and so they continued to make presents, till they bribed Heaven to give them the sight of so blessed a relick! This was now discovered to have been the blood of a duck, which they renewed every week: and the one side of the vial was so thick, that there was no seeing through it; but the other was clear and

transparent. And it was so placed near the altar, that one in a secret place behind could turn either side of it outward. So when they had drained the pilgrims, that came thither, of all they had brought with them, then they afforded them the favour of turning the clear side outward; who, upon that, went home, very well satisfied with their journey and the expence they had been at." Burnet, *Hist. Reform. Ch. of Eng.* B. iii. (sub. ann. 1538.) See also Lord Herbert's *Hist. of Hen.* VIII. p. 432.

\* *Monasticon*, tom. ii. 344.

\* Original Deed in the possession of the Earl of Bridgewater.

\* Nasmith, in his Catalogue of the Manuscripts in Bene't Coll. Cambridge, recites a Charter, entitled by him, "*Carta foundationis Monasterii de Esserugge per Ricardum regis Alemannie filium et comitem Cornubie*." Catal. p. 129. He must mean *Edmundum*, Ricardi regis, &c.



et Beate Marie ac Rectori Bonorum Virorum Fratrum Ecclesie in honore preciosi sanguinis Jhu Christi apud *Esserugge* fundate, et Bonis Viris eiusdem loci fratribus Deo ibidem servientibus et imperpetuum servituris, ad sustentacionem viginti fratrum clericorum, de quibus tresdecim sint Presbiteri ad minus, Manerium nostrum de *Esserugge*, cum \* *Pichelestorne*, et omnibus aliis pertinentiis suis, que habuimus ex dono et concessione quondam *Uhami Cheinduit*; cum clauso parci eiusdem Manerii de *Esserugge*, tam infra parochiam Ecclesie beati Petri de *Berchamstede*, quam infra parochiam Ecclesie de *Pichelestorne*.

“ *Dedimus* etiam et concessimus, pro nobis et heredibus nostris, dictis Rectori et Fratribus, in dicta Ecclesia Deo servientibus et imperpetuum servituris, Manerium nostrum de <sup>z</sup> *Parva Gatesdene* cum omnibus et singulis pertinentiis suis tam ad terras et tenementa que quondam dominus *Galfridus de Lucy* de nobis tenuit in eodem Manerio, quam ad terras et tenementa que habuimus ex dono et concessione quondam *Thome de Vieleston* in eodem Manerio spectantibus.

“ *Dedimus* insuper et concessimus, pro nobis et heredibus nostris, dictis Rectori et Fratribus, in dicta Ecclesia Deo servientibus et imperpetuum servituris, Manerium nostrum de <sup>a</sup> *Hamelhamestede* cum omnibus et singulis pertinentiis suis, excepta advocacione Ecclesie eiusdem Manerii et Warennæ nostræ in eodem. Habend' et tenend' omnia predicta Maneria, videlicet de *Esserugge*, *Pichelestorne*, *Hamelhamestede*, et *Gatesden*, tam ex illa parte quam quondam dictus dominus *Galfridus de Lucy* de nobis tenuit, quam ex parte illa quam habuimus ex dono et concessione quondam *Thome de Vieleston* ibidem: cum returno brevium Domini Regis; placito vetiti namii; placito Corone Regis; catallis felonum et fugitivorum; cum visu Franciplegii, et omnibus que ad visum pertinent; cum emendis assise panis et cervisie fracte; hutesio levato; et placito de sanguine effuso; et etiam cum homagio et servicio heredum quondam prefati Domini *Galfridi de Lucy* de toto tenemento quod de nobis tenent vel tenere debent in villa de *Parva Gatesden*; et cum homagio et servicio heredum quondam *Thome de fflaundene* de toto tenemento quod de nobis tenent vel tenere debent in villa de *Hamelhamestede*; et cum homagio et servicio heredum quondam *Luce Lovel* de toto tenemento quod de nobis tenent vel tenere debent in eadem villa; et cum homagio et servicio <sup>b</sup> *Willielmi Turgys* et heredum suorum de toto tenemento quod de nobis tenent vel tenere debent in eadem villa; et cum omnibus iuribus et libertatibus ac liberis consuetudinibus, que nos vel antecessores nostri in predictis Maneriis de *Esserugge*, *Pichelestorne*, et *Hamelhamestede*, ac etiam in Manerio de *Parva Gatesdene*, tam ex parte illa quam quondam prefatus Dominus *Galfridus de Lucy* de nobis tenuit, quam ex parte illa quam habuimus ex dono et concessione quondam *Thome de Vieleston* ibidem, ratione libertatis honoris de *Berchamstede* utebamur vel uti consueveramus; ac etiam cum omnibus rebus ad predicta Maneria qualitercunque spectantibus; ut in domibus, edificiis, homagiis, fidelitatibus, wardis, releviis, herietis, scutagiis, et omnibus aliis forinsecis serviciis, escaetis, redditibus, et serviciis tam liberorum hominum quam villanorum; villanis cum suis villenagiis, catallis, et sequelis eorum; sectis curiarum, cotagiis, ortis, gardinis, boscis, planis, pratis, pascuis, et pasturis, viis, semitis, fossatis, et haiis; aquis, vivariis, piscariis, stagnis, molendinis, videlicet, *Picotesmilne*, *Burimilne*, *Twowatermilne*, *ffollingmilne*, et *Welpesburnemilne*, cum prato eidem molendino adjacente; in omnibus locis et rebus cunctis, tam non nominatis quam nominatis, que ad predicta Maneria pertinent vel pertinere debent vel solent, infra villam et extra, adeo bene et libere, sicut nos vel antecessores nostri eadem Maneria cum pertinentiis unquam melius vel liberior tenuimus, predictis Rectori et Fratribus Ecclesie predictæ, et eorum successoribus, de nobis et heredibus nostris in liberam puram et perpetuam elemosinam sine ullo retenemento; Salvis tamen nobis et heredibus nostris

\* In the county of Bucks. See p. 1. *Nettleden* and *Frithsden* are returned, in the last publick census, as belonging to *Pichelestorne*; the former of which has a church. *Pichelestorne* itself is a small village, having a population of about 300 persons; the two hamlets, about 100. Chauncy notices the Manor of *Frithsden*. Hist. of Hertf. p. 552. See also, presently, the Rental of the College under County of *Hertford*.

<sup>r</sup> The market-town of *Berkhampsted*, County of *Hertford*, otherwise called *Berkhampsted St. Peter's*.

<sup>z</sup> Little *Gaddesden*, County of *Hertford*, a small village.

<sup>a</sup> The market-town of *Hemel-Hempsted*, County of *Hertford*.

<sup>b</sup> Chauncy omits the mention of this person, in reciting the rights and privileges granted to *Ashridge*; though he properly notices *Geoffry Lord Lucy*, *Thomas de Flaunden*, &c. He mistakes the place also where this charter of foundation was signed, which he calls *Langet* instead of *Langeley*, or *Langley*. See Hist. of Hertf. p. 550.



advocatione Ecclesie Manerii de *Hamelhamstede* et Warennæ nostra in eodem. Ita tamen quod si contingat quod predicti Fratres vel eorum successores in dicta Warennæ lepores vel cuniculos capiant, proinde nullatenus occasionentur, attachientur, seu amercientur. Quod si eorum servientes seu tenentes attachiati fuerint per ballivos nostros vel heredum nostrorum, ratione forisfacture in Warennæ predicta, et in misericordia inciderint, volumus et concedimus, pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quod predicti Rector et Fratres, et eorum successores, omnimodas emendas et amerciamenta ex hujusmodi forisfacturis provenientia percipiant et habeant sine calumpnia nostra vel heredum nostrorum, seu ministrorum nostrorum quorumcunque.

“Volumus etiam et concedimus, pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quod predicti Rector et Fratres, et eorum successores, habeant et teneant imperpetuum communiam pasture in bosco nostro de *Berchamstede*, qui vocatur *le Frithe*, ad omnia animalia sua; et quod habeant omnes porcos suos in eodem bosco nostro, tempore pannagii, quietos de pannagio, sine calumpnia vel impedimento nostri vel heredum nostrorum, seu ministrorum nostrorum; et quod habeant in eodem bosco nostro housbote et heybote, et ad claustram parci sui de *Esserugge*, sine calumpnia vel impedimento nostri vel heredum nostrorum, et sine visu vel impedimento ministrorum nostrorum vel heredum nostrorum.

“Volumus insuper et concedimus, pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quod predicti Rector et Fratres dicte Ecclesie, et eorum successores, ac homines et tenentes sui de *Esserugge*, *Pichelestorne*, *Hamelhamstede*, et *Gatesdene*, quieti sint de nobis et heredibus nostris de omnimodis sectis quarumcunque Curiarum, Hundredorum, et de visu Franciplegii, et de omnimodis aliis exactionibus et demandis, que nobis et heredibus nostris aliquo casu accidere possint in futurum. Ita tamen quod predicti homines et tenentes de *Esserugge*, *Pichelestorne*, *Hamelhamstede*, et *Gatesdene*, tam ex parte illa quam dictus Dominus *Galfridus Lucy* de nobis tenuit, quam ex parte illa quam *Thomas de Vilestone* aliquando tenuit in eodem, omnes sectas quas nobis facere consueverunt tam de visibus Franciplegii, quam de aliis, plenarie faciant Rectori et Fratribus Ecclesie predictæ et eorum successoribus imperpetuum.

“Preterea volumus et concedimus, pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quod predicti Rector et Fratres predictæ Ecclesie, et eorum successores, libere possint emere et vendere in burgo nostro de *Berchamstede* et alibi, tam infra honorem nostrum de *Wallingford*, quam de *Berchamstede*, imperpetuum, absque theoloneo prestando; et etiam quod ipsi Rector et Fratres et successores sui, ac eorum homines et tenentes de *Esserugge*, *Pichelestorne*, *Hamelhamstede*, et *Gatesdene*, ubique liberi sint ab omni exactione seu prestatione theolonei, pontagii, stallagii, passagii, lestagii, et ab omnibus exactionibus et consuetudinibus, sicut homines et tenentes nostri de *Berchamsted* et *Wallingford* ubique existunt.

“Volumus insuper et concedimus, pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quod prefati Rector et Fratres dicte Ecclesie, ac eorum successores, imperpetuum sint quieti de scutagio quociens acciderit.

“Preterea volumus et concedimus, pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quod, cedente vel decedente Rectore predictæ Ecclesie, nos vel heredes seu ministri nostri vel heredum nostrorum nullatenus habeamus ingressum in terris, tenementis, vel redditibus ipsorum Fratrum, nec quicquam nos intromitemus de hiis, nec de aliis rebus que ad ipsos Fratres pertinent, vel pertinere debent, tempore vacationis quo carebunt Rectore. Set volumus quod terre et tenementa ac redditus ipsorum Fratrum, necnon et alia que ad ipsos pertinent, in manibus suis semper remaneant, tam tempore vacationis quam aliis temporibus; nec statum suum in aliquo mutent. Et cum predicti Fratres aliquem in Rectorem suum canonice elegerint, liceat Episcopo loci illius ipsum confirmare, eciam si Patrono prius non fuerit presentatus.

<sup>c</sup> Among the Earl of Bridgewater's Deeds and Papers is an old book of abstracts of Evidences relating chiefly to the wood called *Berkhamsted Frith*.

<sup>d</sup> There is a copy of a grant, among the Earl of Bridgewater's Papers, from King Hen. II. recited and confirmed by John, Rector of Asherugge, to the tenants of the honour of Wallingford, and the honour of Berkhamsted, *to be toll-free*, dated 2. Rich. III. Chauncy recites this grant of Hen. II. in the following words; “that all the men and merchants of the honour of Wallingford and Berkhamsted St. Peter's should have

firm peace through all his land of England and Normandy, wheresoever they shall be;—and that they should have all the laws, liberties, and free customs, as they enjoyed them honourably in the time of King Edward, (which was Edward the Confessor,) &c. and that they should remain with their merchandise, to be bought or sold, through England, Normandy, Aquitaine, and Anjou, by water, by land, by wood, and by strand, quit of tallage, pontage, lastage, [or lestage,] passage, and all customs and exactions.” See Hist. of Hert. p. 571.



Et nos predictus Edmundus, et heredes nostri, omnia supradicta in forma superius expressa predictis Rectori et Fratribus, et eorum successoribus, contra omnes homines Christianos et Judeos, sicut nostram liberam puram et perpetuam eleemosinam, warrantizabimus, acquietabimus, et imperpetuum defendemus. Et ut hec nostra donacio, concessio, et presentis Carte nostre confirmacio perpetue firmitatis robur optineant, presentem Cartam sigilli nostri impressione duximus roborandam. Hiis testibus, venerabilibus patribus domino Olivero *Lincolniensi*, et domino Petro *Exoniensi*, *Episcopis*; dominis Radulfo *Pippard*, Olivero *de Kynham*, Ricardo *de Cornubia* fratre nostro, Henrico *de Sottebroke*, Thoma *de Breante*, Waltero *de la Puylle*, Johanne *Neirmyt*, Hugone *de Broke*, Johanne *de Gatesdene*, Willielmo *le Enveyse*, militibus; Radulfo *le Mareschal*, Morando *de Pichelestorne*; Waltero *de Portes*; Henrico *de Pottenham*; Radulfo *de Merston*; et aliis.

“Nos autem donaciones et concessionem predictas ratas habentes et gratas eas pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quantum in nobis est, prefatis Rectori et Fratribus et eorum successoribus concedimus et confirmamus, sicut carta predicta rationabiliter testatur. Et quia super libertatibus in eadem carta contentis volentes certiorari, inquisitionem inde fieri mandavimus, per quam accepimus quod prefatus Comes habet Returnum omnium Brevium nostrorum de omnibus placitis et summonicionibus predicta Maneria de *Esserugge*, *Pichelestorne*, *Hamelhamestede*, et *Gatesdene*, et homines eorundem Maneriorum, contingentibus; et etiam quod habet in eisdem Maneriis placita vetiti namii et corone, videlicet quantum vicecomes placitare potest in Comitatu, exceptis appellis et utlagariis; et etiam catalla felonum et fugitivorum per extractas eidem Comiti liberatas in itineribus Justiciarorum apud *Bercamestede* itinerantium, et visum Franciplegii, emendas assise panis et cervisie fracte, placita de hutesio levato et sanguine effuso; et etiam quod *Isabella* quondam Regina Anglie, mater domini H. Regis patris nostri, toto tempore suo, et similiter dominus *Ricardus* quondam Rex Alemannie, avunculus noster, postmodum a toto tempore quo Maneria predicta ad manus suas devenerunt, et similiter prefatus Comes filius et heres prefati *Ricardi* omnibus libertatibus predictis in eisdem Maneriis plene usi sunt, absque impedimento vicecomitis seu aliorum ministrorum dicti patris nostri aut nostrorum, sicut predictum est. Quare volumus et firmiter precipimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quod predicti Rector et Fratres et successores sui habeant et teneant Returnum omnium Brevium nostrorum de omnibus placitis et summonicionibus predicta Maneria de *Esserugge*, *Pichelestorne*, *Hamelhamestede*, et *Gatesdene*, et homines eorundem Maneriorum, contingentibus; et etiam quod habeant in eisdem Maneriis placita vetiti namii et corone, videlicet, quantum vicecomes placitare potest in Comitatu, exceptis appellis et utlagariis; et etiam catalla felonum et fugitivorum per extractas eisdem Rectori et Fratribus liberandas in itineribus Justiciariorum apud *Bercamestede* itineraturorum, et visum Franciplegii, emendas assise panis et cervisie fracte, placita de hutesio levato et sanguine effuso, et eisdem ad plenum utantur imperpetuum, sine occasione vel impedimento nostri seu heredum nostrorum, justiciariorum, vicecomitum, ballivorum, seu ministrorum nostrorum quorumcunque, in forma predicta. Hiis testibus, venerabili patre Roberto, *Bathon. et Wellen. Episcopo*, Cancellario nostro; Humfrido *de Bohun*, Comite Hereford et Essex; Willielmo *de Bello Campo*, Comite Warrewyk; Roberto *Filio Walteri*; Ricardo *de Brus*; Willielmo *de Leyborne*; Rogero *de Mortuo Mari*; Johanne *de Bohun*; Ricardo *de Bosco*; Johanne *de Westone*; Galfrido *de Pycheforde*; Elya *de Hamull*; Gilberto *de Bridesdale*; et aliis. Data per manum nostram apud Langeley, decimo septimo die Aprilis, anno regni nostri quarto et decimo.”

The Rector and Brethren had received from Fulk or Fulco Neyrnut, rector of Pichelestorne, the grant or privilege of celebrating divine worship in their College, bearing date, on his part, at Pichelestorne on the Feast of the Purification, 1288; and having the episcopal assent, therein recorded, dated 8<sup>o</sup>. Id. Marcii, in the same year, together with that of the dean and chapter of Lincoln in 1289. “*¶* Liceat eisdem Religiosis ecclesiam basilicam capellam seu oratorium et altaria ibidem consituere, in quibus omnia divina obsequia et ministeria valeant celebrare.”

<sup>o</sup> Isabel, daughter of Ailmer, Earl of Angoulesme.

<sup>f</sup> See also among the Earl of Bridgewater's Deeds, Pat. Rect.

et Fratr. 18. Edw. I. And Copy of the preceding Charter, Inspec. 19. Edw. I.

<sup>g</sup> Earl of Bridgewater's Records.



The same Rector of Pichelestorne, with the consent and confirmation of Sir John Neyrnut, patron of this rectory, to which the College (as we have <sup>h</sup> seen) was parochially subject, conceded certain rights in Ashridge park to the Rector and Brethren, on consideration of receiving from them *six marks in ready money*, "sex marcas argenti præ manibus;" and with reservation to himself of the tithes within the district named. The grant is as follows.

"<sup>i</sup> *Omnibus* Christi fidelibus ad quorum noticiam presentes litere pervenerint, *Fulco Neyrnut*, Rector Ecclesie de *Pichelesthorn*, Salutem in Domino. Noverit universitas vestra me de consensu et plena voluntate dilecti patris mei, domini *Johannis Neyrnut*, Ecclesie mee *Pichelesthorn* advocati et veri patroni, concessisse, remisisse, et omnino quietum clamasse, pro me, et successoribus meis, Rectoribus Ecclesie de *Pichelesthorn*, fratri *Radulpho* Rectori Ecclesie de *Essherugg* in honore preciosi sanguinis Jesu Christi fundate, et Bonis Viris ejusdem loci fratribus, ac eorum successoribus imperpetuum, totum jus et clamium quod habeam vel aliquo modo habere potui in toto parco, et novo clauso, de *Essherugg*, fossatis, hayis veteribus et novis, ibidem factis. Ita quod nec ego, nec aliquis successorum meorum, Rectorum predictæ Ecclesie de *Pichelesthorn*, nec aliquis nomine nostro infra predictum parcum et clausum communam pasture, housbote, nec heybote, nec aliquid juris de cetero, exigere, vendicare, nec clamare poterimus. Salvis michi decimis quas ad Ecclesiam meam predictam infra predictum parcum, et clausum, clamo de jure pertinere. Concessi etiam pro me, et successoribus meis, Rectoribus Ecclesie de *Pichelesthorn*, predictis Rectori et Fratribus, ac eorum successoribus, quod possint fossatas predicti parci et novi clausi pro voluntate sua per duodecim pedum spacia circumquaque ampliare et dilatare. Pro hac autem concessione, remissione, et quietâ clamacione, dederunt michi predicti Rector et Fratres de *Esserugg* sex marcas argenti pre manibus. In cujus rei testimonium presentibus literis sigillum meum apposui. Et ad majorem hujus rei securitatem predictus dominus Johannes Neyrnut dicte Ecclesie mee advocatus et verus patronus presentibus sigillum suum apposuit. Hiis testibus, dominis Johanne de *Gatesden*, Willielmo de *Enveyst*, Stephano *Cheyndut*, militibus. Radulpho de *Mareschal*; Johanne *Aingnel*; Waltero de *Portes*; Mauricio de *Pichelesthorn*; Henrico de *Pottenham*; Hugone de *Stretleye*; Galfrido de *Erleye*; Henrico de *Seggham*; et aliis. Dat apud Neuportpaignel die Veneris in festo conversionis Sancti Pauli anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Henrici quarto decimo."

Upon the subject of the tithes, while Fulco was rector of Pichelestorne, there has been preserved the "<sup>k</sup> Assensus Decani et Capituli Lincoln' super compositione inter Conventum de *Assherugg* et Rectorem de *Pichelesthorne* pro quibusdam decimis;" upon which deed an <sup>i</sup> Inspeimus also remains, dated 12 Sept. 4. James I. And of Fulco's grant, which we have just perused, there is a <sup>m</sup> confirmation by Thomas Neyrnut, his immediate successor in the rectory. The rectory of Pichelestorne was afterwards wholly <sup>n</sup> appropriated to the College of Ashridge.

The munificence of the founder to the College is again recorded in a Licence granted to him, dated at "Langeleye, xxviii. die Julij. 18<sup>o</sup>. Edw. I.", to make the following donations to it: "° duo burgagia, duas carucatas, tres virgatas, et sexcies viginti acras terre, triginta acras prati, sexdecim acras pasture, ducentas et triginta et quatuor acras bosci, et ducentas et quater viginti et quindecim acras vasti cum pertinen' in *Berkhamsted* et *Hamelhamsted* una cum <sup>p</sup> advocacione Ecclesie de *Hamelhamsted*."

The original Statutes and Ordinances of the College exist among the various documents, which were carefully preserved by the noble possessors of Ashridge, after it became the

<sup>h</sup> See p. 1.

<sup>i</sup> Earl of Bridgewater's Records.

<sup>k</sup> Ibid.

<sup>l</sup> Ibid.

<sup>m</sup> Ibid.

<sup>n</sup> Valor Eccl. and Bridgew. Records.

<sup>o</sup> "Ex Rotulo Patentium de anno decimo octavo Edw. I. m. 13. Conventum cum Recordo. Gulielmus Ryley." Papers at Ashridge.

<sup>p</sup> Here we see the advowson of Hemelhemsted granted to the College; in the first grant it is excepted. See p. 5, 6. So Chauncy says: "King Henry the III. gave it [the Manor of

Hemelhemsted] to Richard his brother, who was afterwards King of Almain, and Earl of Cornwall, from whom it came to Edmund his son, who granted it to the Church of Esserugg, which was of his own foundation, with all and singular the appurtenances, *except the advowson of the Church* and his warren there." See Chauncy's Hist. of Hertf. p. 547. Certain it is, that the College possessed the rectory of Hemelhemsted. Now Chauncy had never seen the return of the property of the College at the time of the dissolution of monasteries, in which *Rectoria de Hemel Hemsted*, valued at 42*l*. 3*s*., forms a part. See also the Valor Eccles. Hen. VIII. Hemelhemsted. Colleg. de Assherugg in Bucks, Propr."



property of Lord Chancellor Ellesmere. Of the Statutes also, which were delivered to the Rector and Brethren about a century after the foundation of the College, an old attested Copy, extracted from the episcopal registry of Lincoln, is also kept. And of both these hitherto unpublished and curious Constitutions a more minute account will presently be given.

Soon after the foundation of the College, it was distinguished by King Edward the First holding a Parliament in it. Of this distinction <sup>1</sup> Pulton has taken no notice, because it was of short continuance, and no act passed at that Session. Yet several judgements were given there, as appears by the <sup>2</sup> record, which made it a Parliament. In particular, on account of the great debate here agitated in 1291 respecting the original and the necessary use of fines.

Before the end of the year 1288, the Earl of Cornwall had further endowed the College of Ashridge with the Manors of <sup>3</sup> *Ambrosden* and *Chesterton*, in the County of Oxford; together with the Advowson of both Churches. Of rights in *Edlesborough*, a village in the County of Bucks, near Dunstable, he had also put the Rector and Brethren of Ashridge in possession; as appears by his grant to Philip de Kent in the <sup>4</sup> note below.

But the bounty of the Earl of Cornwall was not confined to the College of Ashridge. He, in 1278, had <sup>5</sup> augmented the Chapel of St. Nicholas in his Castle of Wallingford; which he endowed with forty pounds per annum for the maintenance of a Master, five Chaplains, six Clerks, and four Choristers. In the following year he began to build for Cistercian monks the monastery of Rewley, called also North-Oseney, near Oxford. In 1280 it is said, that by his "patents and donations there were fourteen paroch churches in Walingford." In 1281 his Monastery of <sup>6</sup> *Rewley* was completed and endowed. In 1287 he distinguished himself, with success, as a military commander, in his expedition against the rebellious Welshmen, who had committed great excesses in the borders of England, and whom he pursued to their mountainous retreats and castles. The next year exhibits him as the builder of a Chapel, over the place where Edmund the Confessor was born, at Abingdon; in which many miracles were said to have been observed. In 1291 he gave several lands and tenements, in the parish of St. Peter's East, to the Brethren of the Holy Trinity in Oxford. This and his other charities obtained him the title of *Summus Religiosorum Patronus*. The Nunnery of Stodley experienced his bounty in 1299, when he gave part of his waste land in Horton, to enlarge the enclosure of the Nuns.

On the first of October, in the following year, he died in his College of Ashridge; when the <sup>7</sup> honour of Berkhamsted reverted to the Crown. His bowels were immediately buried here. But his heart and flesh were more solemnly interred on the twelfth of January, in the presence of Edmund, the King's son; the <sup>8</sup> Bishop of Durham; the <sup>9</sup> Bishop of Chester; the

<sup>1</sup> Collection of Statutes.

<sup>2</sup> Inter Placita de Parl. apud Ashridge, ann. 19. Edw. I. Rot. 12. Coke, 2. Inst. fol. 511. Chauncy's Hist. of Hertfordshire, p. 551. Topographer, vol. ii. p. 133.

<sup>3</sup> The Charter of this donation is printed in Kennet's Paroch. Antiquities, p. 310.

<sup>4</sup> "Edmundus, Comes Cornub' dilecto sibi Philippo de Kent Salutem. Quia concessimus dilectis nobis in Christo Rectori Ecclesie de *Assherugg* in honore preciosi sanguinis Jesu Christi fundate, in Com' Bük, et Fratribus ibidem Deo servientibus, et in perpetuum servituris, et eorum successoribus, homagium et totum servicium et heredium tuorum in quibus nobis tenebaris ratione terrarum et ten' que de nobis tenuisti in villa de *Edlesbergwe* in Com' predicto, tibi tenore presentium mandamus quantumvis eisdem Rectori et Fratribus, et eorum successoribus, de homagio et serviciis tuis predictis, de cetero sis intendens et respondens. In cujus rei testimonium has literas nostras tibi et heredibus tuis fieri fecimus patentes. Dat' apud Berkamsted duodecimo die Marcij anno regis Edwardi filii regis Hen. vicesimo tercio." Earl of Bridgewater's Records.

<sup>5</sup> The account of the Earl of Cornwall's subsequent charities is compiled from Kennet's Parochial Antiquities, and Tanner's Not. Mon.

<sup>6</sup> To pray for the soul of Richard, King of Almain, his father. Chauncy recites the lands with which the monastery was endowed. Hist. of Hertf. p. 575.

<sup>7</sup> Chauncy, Hist. of Hertf. p. 575.

<sup>8</sup> Anthony de Bek or Beake, Bishop of Durham, 1283. Died in 1310. Le Neve's Fast. Eccl. Angl. p. 348.

<sup>9</sup> Our antiquaries describe the Bishop of *Chester* as an attendant upon this occasion. It may be proper to observe, that though *Chester* was one of the new sees founded by King Henry VIII., it had long before been the seat of a bishop. Peter, who was consecrated Bishop of Lichfield in 1067, removed that see to *Chester* in 1085, where he was buried. Wharton, Angl. Sacra, vol. i. p. 433. His successor, Robert de Limesey, disliked the situation of his see at *Chester*, and in 1102 removed it to *Coventry*; hence, Le Neve observes, we must, from the time of his successor in 1121, Robert Peche, say, Bishop of Lichfield and *Coventry*. But it appears that the name of *Chester* still continued annexed; for thus Bale speaks of this very person: "Robert Peche, the Byshop of *Chestre*, *Coventre*, and *Lychefelde*, &c." Actes of Eng. Votaries, 1550. P. II. sign. H. iii. b. We may consider, therefore, the application of *Chester* to the Bishops of *Lichfield and Coventry* to have continued till the time of Walter de Langton, the bishop attending at the Earl of Cornwall's interment. So we sometimes find it written, *Coventry and Lichfield*, when this see is mentioned. Formerly the *two chapters* had their disputes as to the election of their prelate. There is now, we know, but *one*; that of Lichfield.



Earl of Warwick; and many others. After this, his bones were carried to the Abbey of Hales; where a magnificent funeral was solemnized on the Thursday before Palm-Sunday, which the King honoured with his presence, and to which he invited several prelates and abbots, in order that the obsequies might be celebrated with the greatest solemnity.

Of his Epitaph, written by one of his monks, a copy has been preserved by Kennet; which is worthy of notice, not on account of its elegance, but of its minuteness as to historical and personal description.

“ Cornubiæ Comes et Dominus mundusque beatus,  
Dicitur Edmundus de regum germine natus.  
Virtutis titulum trahit à probitate parentum,  
Et decus addit ei comitiva modesta clientum.  
Dapsilis in mensa, frugalia pabula præstans,  
Sacratas Domini leges in pectore gestans.  
Protervos dominans de Wallia prædominetur,  
Regis et absentis regnum ratione tuetur.  
Dulcis in eloquio, justus, pius, atque benignus,  
Prudens concilio, regni moderamine dignus.  
FRAXINEI DORSI per eum NOVUS ORDO virescit,  
Summaque coelicolæ nova messis in aggere crescit.  
Sumptibus Edmundi Comititis locus ædificatur  
Regius Oxoniæ, quo plebs studiosa moratur.”

The sepulture of his heart at Ashridge<sup>b</sup> was with the heart of Thomas de Cantilupe, Bishop of Hereford; in veneration of whose merits the Earl had prepared a repository, made with exquisite art, on the north side of the choir of the Conventual Church, in which the bishop's heart was preserved; and, on this occasion, by the authority of the Pope was removed; being, with the Earl's, and with the portion of Christ's blood, as well as with other relicks, committed to an apartment finely gilt, which had been erected by the Earl, in his lifetime, for that use. In the rare and curious little volume, cited in the second note below, “<sup>d</sup> the Earle of Cornwall” is described as having “invited the Saint to keep his Whitsontyde with him at his Castle of Wallingford.” Then the writer, having recorded the death of the prelate, adds, that “the Earle of Cornwall made means to get his heart, a treasure he esteemd aboue any iewells; and, to testify this esteem, thought he could not honour it sufficiently any other way than by enclosing it in a most costly shryne togeather with a parcell of our Bl. Sauours Blood, and founding a Monastery of Bons-Hommes at Ashridg in Buckinghamshyre to its honour, where it might be dayly and duely venerated to the praise and glory of Alm. God, who had raisd his servant to such an eminency of perfection.”

The Earl died without legitimate issue. His honours and lands fell to the King, whom he had before declared his heir. His treasury is represented to have been full of jewels as well as of gold and silver.

In 1720 the arms of the Earl are<sup>e</sup> said to have been visible over the gate of his monastery near Oxford; which were in one shield his paternal coat, *A lion rampant in a border of besants*; and which remain on the<sup>f</sup> seal of one of HIS OWN GRANTS to Ashridge; and in another,

<sup>b</sup> Kennet ut supra. Of the birth and death of Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, see also Flores Historiarum per Matt. Westmonast. fol. ed. 1570. p. 240, and p. 416. He was born at Berkhamsted. Leland describes him as owner of Berkhamstede Castiel. Itin. vol. i. p. 118. edit. Ox. 8vo. 1744.

<sup>c</sup> A prelate, whose history and miracles have been held in such estimation, as to occasion the publication of a volume, entitled *The Life and Gestes of S. Thomas Cantilupe*, 12<sup>mo</sup>. Gant, 1674. See also H. Wharton's *Anglia Sacra*. He had been Lord Chancellor of England. His successors in the See of Hereford have done him the honour to bear, as the arms of the See, the arms of his Family. He became Bishop of Hereford in 1275. He died at Civita Vecchia in Italy, Aug. 25, 1282; but his body was brought to England, and buried in the cathedral of Hereford. See Le Neve's *Fasti Eccl. Angl.* p. 109.

<sup>d</sup> Life of S. Tho. Cantilupe, &c. pp. 211, 212.

<sup>e</sup> Newcome's Hist. of the Abbey of St. Alban's.

<sup>f</sup> Appended to the Carta Fundatoris de homagio et servicio

Isabelle de Bello Campo, quondam uxoris Reginaldi de Bello Campo, pro terris et tenementis in Pychelestorne, et hamelett' de Berle, Nettele, Meybrok, Hortone, et Chetyngdon, infra precinctum honoris de Walyngford, Rectori et Fratribus de Esserugge, &c. The homage and service to be rendered were, “Et quod ipsi tenentes tam liberi quam alii ville et hamelettorum predictorum de cetero veniant, et respondeant coram ministris predictorum Rectoris et Fratrum Ecclesie predictæ, et eorum successoribus, in omnibus et singulis que ad visum pertinent apud Pichelestorne, et ibidem emendas faciant coram ministris predictorum Rectoris et Fratrum Ecclesie predictæ, et eorum successoribus, sicut prius coram nobis et ballivis nostris apud Wyngrove facere consueverunt et debuerunt.” This original Grant is now in the possession of the Earl of Bridgewater; which concludes, “ut presentis carte nostre confirmacio perpetue robur firmitatis optineat, *eam sigilli nostri impressione duximus roborandam.* Hijs testibus, &c.”











*The black eagle of Germany spread and displayed. Kennet observes, that his arms were*  
*§ A field argent, three lions gules coronated, in a black border, charged with bezantines ;*  
 and that the reason why he bore these arms different from the family, being the grandson of King John, may be seen in Camden ; but this may be doubted.

## SECT. II.

## THE ORIGINAL STATUTES OF THE COLLEGE.

“ **Cum Boni Homines** Deo servientes apud **Assherugge** Regulam beati Augustini profiteri debeant et servare: Ordinum est et statutum quod unà cum predicta Regula servare teneantur **Constitutiones Subscriptas**, videlicet.

“ **Quod** officium divinum nocturnum pariter et diurnum secundum usum Sarisburiensem dicatur ab eisdem. Matutine verò de die, media nocte cantentur in choro, nisi in cena Domini, die Parasceues, et in sabbato sancto Pasche. Tunc enim in vespere dicantur. Die verò Pasche, ante diluculum matutinale cantentur. Matutine quidem de beata Maria virgine, quando dici debent in choro, post matutinas diei immediate dicantur.

“ **Quibus** dictis, liceat **fratribus** studere, orare, vel si indigerint ad quietem suam redire usque ad horam competentem surgendi ad primam. Prima verò dicta, singulis diebus intretur capitulum. In capitulo, quilibet **frater** se accuset de manifestis et publicis excessibus et subiaceat pecunie sibi a **Rectore** discrecius injungende. Quòd si se ipsos **fratres** non accusent, **Rector** transgressores corripiat et corrigat, imponens eis pecuniam salutarem. A lite verò et contentione semper in Capitulo caveatur.

“ **Post** correctiones verò oretur pro **Fundatore** et pro omnibus **Benefactoribus**, vivis et defunctis ; pro quibus dicantur Psalmi, *Ad te levavi* et *De profundis*, cum Orationibus, *Deus qui caritatis dona* et *Fidelium dominus*.

“ **In** qualibet etiam missa votiva dicant **fratres** *unam Orationem specialem pro Comite fundatore*.

“ **Post** Capitulum verò studio, oracioni, vel missis suis celebrandis vacent, qui exteriores non habent occupationes, donec pulsetur ad terciam. Provideat autem Sacrista, quòd tali hora ad terciam pulsetur, ut dici possint terciam, missa et sexta ante prandium, quando non ieiunatur ; et diebus illis post prandium nona dicatur. Diebus autem quibus ieiunatur, ante prandium immediate nona dicatur, nisi in quadragesima : Tunc enim dicantur tam sexta quam nona ante missam et post missam vespere, dominicis diebus duntaxat exceptis.

“ **In** vigilia Natalis Domini, et in die post prandium ad gratias, *Laudate Dominum omnes gentes*, decantetur : et sic fiat similiter per octavas. Idem fiat in vigilia Epiphanie et in die. Idem fiat in vigilia Pasche, et in die, et per duos dies sequentes. Idem fiat per omnes dies dominicos, ab illo tempore usque ad Pentecosten. Idem fiat in vigilia Ascensionis Domini et in die. Idem fiat in vigilia Pentecostes, et in die, et per duos dies sequentes. Idem fiat in die Trinitatis. Idem fiat in vigilia SANGUINIS CHRISTI et in die. Idem fiat in vigilia omnium sanctorum et in die. Idem fiat in festo dedicationis ecclesie. Idem fiat in quatuor festis beate Virginis, videlicet, Purificacionis, Annunciationis, Assumptionis, et Nativitatis : et hoc in die totum. Ceteris autem diebus per annum, Ps. *Miserere mei Deus* in graciis decantetur.

“ **A Paschate** usque ad exaltacionem sancte crucis **fratres** dormiant post prandium, et tunc post dormicionem diebus quibus non ieiunatur hora nona regulariter decantetur. Vigilie mortuorum semel dicantur in ebdomada cum novem lectionibus et nota, exceptis temporibus

§ Parochial Antiquities, p. 347.

h Ex Orig. Martyrolog. Collegii, V. Sect. III.



in quibus secundum usum Sar. debet huiusmodi servicium pretermitti. Ceteris verò diebus, exceptis temporibus predictis, in tribus lectionibus et sine nota dicantur.

“ *Tempore* quo bis reficiuntur *fratres*, ita pulsetur ad vespas, quòd post ipsas tempus habeant cenandi: et deinde facto rationabili intervallo, pulsetur ad completorium, quod ab omnibus simul dicatur, nisi aliquis fuerit ex causa necessaria impeditus vel aliter rationabiliter excusatus.

“ *Quandocunque* dicitur *Gloria Patri*, vel *Pater noster*, ad quamlibet horam in choro, reverenter ab omnibus inclinetur. Idem fiat ad omnem oracionem principalem diei tam in missa quam ad <sup>i</sup> horas, ita videlicet, quòd, quando dicitur *Dominus vobiscum* ante oracionem, stent versis vultibus ad altare, donec responderint, *Et cum spiritu tuo*. Finita eciam oracione, idipsum faciant, donec responderint *Amen*. Item ab elevacione sacramenti usque ad illud, *Per omnia preceptis salutaribus*, fiat ab omnibus in choro prostracio super formam. Idem fiat quando dicitur oracio, *Fac nos quesumus Domine de sanguine Christi*, in *EJUSDEM SANGUINIS* nominacione.

“ In festis duplicibus, tam in vespas quam in matutinis et aliis horis, una pars chori sedeat ad unum psalmum, et pars altera ad alium. Aliis verò diebus sedeant omnes in psalmodia: excepto quòd tam in duplicibus quam aliis diebus, dum dicuntur Psalmi, scilicet, *Laudate Dominum de celis*, *Benedictus*, *Quicumque vult*, et *Magnificat*, ac per omnes psalmos totius completorii, stare debent, versis vultibus e regione.

“ *Festum* SANGUINIS JESU CHRISTI, *tanquam Festum Principale*, solempniter celebretur cum regimine chori per octavas: et festa beati Edmundi confessoris, sicut festa Apostolorum, cum propria historia honorifice celebrentur. Festa verò sanctorum confessorum et pontificum, <sup>k</sup> Thome Herefordensis, et translacionis sancti <sup>l</sup> Hugonis Lincolniensis, more simplicis festi ix lectionum celebrentur. Item omni feria quinta per annum, nisi in tertia ebdomada Adventus Domini, et a vigilia Natalis Domini usque ad crastinam octavam Epiphanie, et rursum a septuagesima usque ad octavas Pasche, fiat servicium de SANGUINE CHRISTI; nisi huiusmodi festa vel octave contingent in quinta feria, que in sabbato si venirent commemorationem beate Virginis impedirent, et tunc in aliqua alia feria ipsius ebdomade fiat dictum servicium, ita quòd, si convenienter fieri poterit, nullatenus omittatur. Idem de SANGUINE CHRISTI et beato Edmundo confessore fiat memoria ad singulas matutinas et vespas, preterquam in festis ix lectionum et in festis iii lect.<sup>7</sup> que contingunt infra tempus Paschale, que novem haberent, si contingent extra Paschale tempus, et nisi in sexta die a Nativitate Domini, et in capite ieiunii, et abhinc usque ad octavas Pasche.

“ *Ieiunium* servetur a *fratribus* in quadragesima: cunctis feriis sextis per annum, omnibus feriis quartis et sabbatis per Adventum, cum ieiunio, quòd quatuor tempora nominantur in cibo tantum quadragesimali. Ceteris verò diebus per Adventum, cum diebus Rogacionum, ac vigiliis vel diebus aliis, quibus secundum morem proprie ieiunatur, ieiunium observent, lacticiniis utentes qui voluerint. Tempore verò quo ieiunant *fratres*, fiat signum in ecclesia cum campana ad collacionem potus; qua finita, *fratres* in silencio ad ecclesiam ordinate procedant, dicentes secretas devociones, quas in choro cum prostratione consumment. In mensa verò et collacione lectio semper habeatur, et *fratres* cum silencio ipsam audiant reverenter. In ecclesia dum cantatur, et in refectorio dum comeditur, et in dormitorio tempore dormicionis, silencium arctius teneatur, sub pena gravi transgressoribus infligenda. Aliis vero temporibus, quibus non ieiunatur, quatuor diebus in ebdomada carnibus vescantur, scilicet, die dominica, secunda, tertia, et quinta feria. In quartis verò feriis et sabbatis, quando non ieiunatur, piscibus vescantur et lacticiniis.

“ Cum autem diminutus fuerit numerus *fratrum* per mortem vel alio modo, tales infra dimidium annum vel quamciculus commode fieri poterit loco eorum recipiantur, qui sint moribus honesti, sufficienter litterati, et de quibus certa noticia habeatur quòd non sint servi, non conjugati, non in alia religione professi, non magnorum racionibus nec aliquibus debitis obligati; nec infirmitate gravi que sit incurabilis laborantes. Quibus *fratrum societatem* desiderantibus, et *fratribus* eorum recepcionem consencientibus, in capitulum introducantur;

<sup>l</sup> The hours, that is, their canonical services of matins, primes, tierce, sexts, nones, vespas, and complines; each of which is specified in the preceding paragraphs of these Statutes.

<sup>k</sup> Thomas Cantilupe, Bishop of Hereford. See before, p. 10.

<sup>l</sup> Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1186. He was called St. Hugh.



et requisito ab eis quid petunt, ipsisque ad terram prostratis, dicentibus *Misericordiam Dei et vestram*, dicat eis **Rector**, *Surgatis*; et austeritates Ordinis et observancias exponat eisdem. Quibus respondentibus, *se velle omnia observare*, ulterius requirat **Rector**, an aliquod impedimentorum habeant predictorum. Qui si respondeant *quod non*, statuatur eis annum probationis, et habitu Ordinis induat ipsos, sic faciens in chorum induci: ubi dum cantatur, *Veni Creator*, ante altare iaceant prostrati. Finito ymno cum precibus sequentibus, dicantur oraciones, *Deus qui corda fidelium et Pretende Domine*. Anno probationis finito, si eorum conversacio **Fratribus** placeat, requiratur ab eis, si secundum regulam beati Augustini, et **has Fratrum constitutiones**, velint profiteri. Quibus in hoc consensientibus, admittatur eorum professio in hunc modum: *Ego N etc.* Dum ista verba dicit, manus suas junctos teneat inter manus **Rectoris**. Hic tamen intelligendum est secundum mentem statuentis, non esse noti transgressores, qui fortè non ex contemptu aliquam servare neglexerint earundem, set quod pro culpa sua seu negligencia secundum transgressionis qualitatem rationabiliter puniantur. Postea benedicatur suus habitus, scilicet tunica cum scapulari, in hunc modum, *Deus qui tegimen, etc.* In consimili habitu, cum mortui fiunt, sepeliantur.

“**Ordinatum** est etenim, prout primo placuit **Fundatori**, ut habitum gerant **fratres** singuli, videlicet tunicas<sup>m</sup> griseas cum scapularibus ejusdem coloris, brevioris longitudinis quam sint tunice, et cum capuciis magnitudinis competentis. Clamides eciam habere poterunt ejusdem coloris, longitudinis usque ad talos; et capas ejusdem coloris rotundas, cum exierint ad partes remotas. Lineis autem ad carnem, exceptis femoralibus, non utantur. Poterunt quidem stamine uti ad carnem, ita quod in tunica lanea seu staminea teneantur cuncti dormire.

“**Ille** autem qui preest eis, qui eorum nominandus erit **Magister**, vocetur **Rector**. Et gerens vices ejus cum fuerit absens vel infirmus, vocetur **Corrector**. Ille idem **Rector** singulis annis bis, scilicet in quindena sancti Michaelis et in quindena Pasche, ostendat raciocinium omnium receptarum et expensarum coram quatuor de senioribus et discrecioribus; quorum eciam consilio utatur in agendis. Qui si (quod absit) bonorum domus fuerit dilapidator, vel suis pravis moribus ordinem dissolvat, ad ejus correccionem seu deposicionem **fratres** hoc Episcopo insinuent sine mora. Idem cum in remotis agit, vel infirmitate impeditur, alteri **fratri** vices suas in administracione temporalium committat. Ille vero cui vices hujusmodi commiserit, vel si quem sub se fecerit provisorem de receptis et expensis, coram **Rectore** ipso et quatuor de senioribus rationem reddat quandocunque fuerit requisitus.

“**Caveat Rector** ne **fratri** alicui det licenciam exeundi ad remociora, sine causa necessaria; et tunc computatis diebus ad eundum et redeundum necessariis, brevis assignetur terminus revertendi; qui si ab exeunte non fuerit observatus, condigna sibi pro transgressionem pena infligatur, et nichilominus exeundi licencia sibi alias denegetur. Nec **frater** aliquis clausuram exteriorem exeat sine licencia **Rectoris**, et tunc cum socio; nisi exteriores habuerit occupaciones. Nec mulieres illam intrent clausuram, nisi Regine, seu Fundatrices, vel matres aut sorores **fratrum**. Mulieribus eciam in ipsarum comitiva venientibus, ex discreta **Rectoris** dispensacione, cum eisdem liceat intrare. Et tunc si **fratres** cum eis loqui voluerint, breviter loquantur, et cum socio. Nullus eciam sine causa rationabili exeat septa **fratrum**, hoc est, loca claustralia post completorium; et tunc de licencia **Rectoris**, et non aliter.

“**Fortuo Rector**, vel à suo officio aliàs absoluto, infra quindenam, si fieri poterit, procedant **fratres** ad eleccionem futuri **Rectoris**; quam, Deum habentes præ oculis in

<sup>m</sup> Of a grey colour. This overthrows what Tanner, Atkyns, and other antiquaries have asserted, that this Religious Order wore a sky-blue dress. *Griseus* cannot be translated sky-blue. The *Grey Friars* are known by the Latin appellation of *Grisei Monachi*. The feathers of birds are described as to colour, “quædam *griseæ* seu *cinericeæ*,” that is, grey or a sky-coloured. See Du Cange in V. *GRISÆUS*. The Brethren of Ashridge, then, were clothed in the usual “*amice gray*” of the monastick orders. It may be curious to observe, that in “A Booke of Certaine Canons concerning some parte of the Discipline of the Church of England,” set forth in 1571, it is ordered, “that no deane, nor archdeacon, nor residentiary,

nor master, nor warden, nor head of any college or cathedrall church, neither president, nor rector, nor any of that order, by what name soever they be called, shall hereafter wear the *gray amice*, or any other garment which hath bene defiled with the lyke superstition.” p. 7.

<sup>n</sup> Train or procession. Ital. *Comitiva*, i. e. compagna propriamente che accompagna per honorare. Gall. *Suite*. Brompton in Henrico II. “Filio suo mandavit, ut sororem suam et *comitivam* ejus reverenter susciperet.” Chron. Trivet. “Edmundus Cantuar. Archiep. in *comitiva* sua fratres prædicatores habebat continuè.” Vide Du Cange in voce.



simplicitate sua, remota qualibet ambicionis ac dissencionis materia, quantum poterint et sciverint, studeant canonice celebrare. Factam verò electionem ab Episcopo postulent humiliter confirmari.

“ In decessu *fratrum* pulsetur capituli campana; et tunc *fratres* omnes convenient ad infirmariam, et egrotanti ministrentur ecclesie sacramenta; qui si decesserit, officio commendacionis pacto, lavetur corpus, et postea, ° involutum in suo habitu, cum reverencia ad ecclesiam deportetur; et media pars chori ante matutinas, et pars altera post matutinas, vigilet circa funus. In crastino verò, post missam pro defuncto solemniter celebratam, tradatur honorifice sepulture. Omnes quidem *fratres* die illo celebrent pro eodem, ita tamen quòd misse de die et beata Virgine nullatenus omittantur.

“ Isti verò sunt, quorum sunt dies anniversarii solemniter celebrandi, videlicet, *Bone memorie Ricardus, quondam Rex Allemanie, pater fundatoris; Regina Senchia, mater eiusdem; Petrus, Comes Alensconie, fundatoris consanguineus; Beatrix, Richemundie Comitissa, ipsius consanguinea; et ipsemet fundator, qui hos dies anniversarios statuit observari.*

“ Illud in fine pretermittendum non est, quòd semel in ebdomada, post Regulam beati Augustini, legantur *Constitutiones predictæ*, sive in capitulo, sive ad mensam, ubi melius haberi poterit *fratrum* presencia, et intellectui *ipsarum Regule et Constitutionum* melius vacari.”

### SECT. III.

#### REMARKS ON THE STATUTES. CUSTOMS OF THE COLLEGE.

THE preceding Section exhibits the Statutes of this College exactly as they are entered in a Martyrology or Register, which undoubtedly belonged to the Society. Yet, in the Copy of these Statutes preserved in the Episcopal Registry at Lincoln, there are found some circumstances, of which no notice occurs in those already cited, and which represent the early state of the College in a light somewhat different from that in which it has hitherto been viewed.

These episcopal Statutes are clearly a revision and alteration of the original Statutes, which we have just perused. The preamble in the episcopal Copy ascertains the alteration. The more important variations in this Copy, are the statements, that originally the number of priests in this College was only seven, and that the number of twenty brethren is to be attributed to the subsequent bounty of Edward, Prince of Wales, and of other noblemen, together with that of the original founder, Edmund, Earl of Cornwall.

The words are these.

“ Quomodo clare memorie quondam Edmundus, Comes Cornubie, dum agebat in humanis, pie desiderans terrena in celestia et transitoria in perpetua felici commercio commutare, Domum seu Capellam de Asherugge nostre dioc. ad laudem Omnipotentis Dei ac sub

° One, so wrapped, and with lead over his dress, was discovered in digging for the foundation of a building at Ashridge a few years since.

p Senchia, the second wife of Richard, Earl of Cornwall, and King of Almain, was the mother of Edmund, the founder of Ashridge. Richard is said to have endowed this lady, on the marriage-day, with a third part of the lands which he then possessed. Our ancient historians describe their wedding as celebrated with great pomp and feasting, there being no less than 30,000 dishes provided for the dinner: “*triginta millia ferculorum prandentibus parabantur.*” Matt. Paris. She was the daughter of Raymond and Beatrix, Earl and Countess of Provence.

q Here we see the term *House*, and presently that of *College*, applied to the place in which the religious persons of Ashridge lived. In the same way *house*, in our own language, is used for *college* or for a *monastery*. Ashridge, however, in the above episcopal instrument, is said to have been made “*canonicè Collegium*,” and appears to have preserved that distinction at least more than a century and half from the date of this instrument. The Rental in 1534 bears the title both of “*Valor Collegii*,” simply; and also of “*Domus sive Collegium Bonorum Virorum de Ashridge, &c.*” And so in a Deed, long before that time, by one of the Rectors, (which will presently be cited,) it is “*Domus sive Collegium.*”



honore et vocabulo sanguinis Christi preciosi fundavit, et in eadem ordinavit et institui fecit canonice Collegium sub *exiguo septennario numero* sacerdotum, et aliorum clericorum professorum sub nomine seu vocabulo Bonorum Hominum, qui sub regula sancti Augustini cum certis observanciis divinis laudibus insistentes ipsi Deo perpetuis temporibus deservirent, inter quas nonnulla eis imposuit observanda que (licet pertinuit) tanquam provida et utilia viderentur, ex cursu tamen et mutacione temporum jam *in quibusdam tanquam animis gravia et nonnullis minus decentia seu convenientia solvi dispendium potius quam proficuum inducerent nisi melius reformatur* : Cumque etiam prefatum Collegium ex piis largicionibus serenissimi Principis domini Edwardi primogeniti illustris Regis Anglie et Francie, Principis Wallie, ducis Cornubie, et Comitis Cestrie, *jam dicti Collegii fundatoris*, et aliorum Nobilium Christi fidelium, tam in possessionibus quam in personis usque ad *numerum vicenarium* fratrum professorum sacerdotum, videlicet clericorum competentium Deo jugiter in dicta Domo famulancium habundancia sic excrevit, ut ex majoribus rerum affluentis religionis quam et loci illius pulcritudine, qua toto vicinia venustatur, honorabilius conderet majores gratiarum actiones et laudes Deo solempnius exhibere : Propter quod *Nos* in hac parte dicte sacre Domui ac ipsius saluti et honori paterna sollicitudine prospicere cupientes, facta per Nos prius super hiis inquisitione diligenti in visitacione nostra ordinaria quam nuper in eadem Domo personaliter exercuimus, habita deliberacione et consilio jurisplacitorum supradictas constitutiones et observationes antiquas per prefatum fundatorem, ut premittitur, institutas, *in modum qui sequitur duximus reformandas*, et easdem cum moderaminibus et addicionibus etiam infrascriptis, mandamus et precepimus in Domo ipsa et ipsius Collegio a personis et ministris ejusdem ecclesiasticis prout ad eos attinet perpetuis temporibus de cetero inviolabiliter observari, antiquis constitutionibus consuetudinibus observanciis seu statutis non obstantibus ; que omnia quatenus hiis nostris infrascriptis obtinent, et non alias, auctoritate nostra ordinaria, dicti serenissimi Principis *eorum etiam patroni qui nunc est*, et aliorum quorum interest concurrente consensu, certis de causis et ex certa scientia subducimus et revocamus expresse."

After these words, the Constitutions follow in the very same expressions as those which we find in the preceding Section ; except that the clauses, respecting confession, correction, the prohibition of strife, and the praying for the Founder and Benefactors, viz. from *In capitulo*, p. 11, to *Comite Fundatore* in the same page, are omitted. This copy bears date the 20th of April, 1376, the 'thirteenth year of the Bishop's consecration. On the 8th of July in that year, Edward Prince of Wales died ; and, in his will, makes a considerable bequest to HIS COLLEGE OF ASHRIDGE ; which designation has induced the acute collector of *Royal and Noble Wills* to remark, that "what concern the Black Prince had in this foundation no further appears." He knew not of the Constitutions before us.

The bequests are these.

"\* Item, nos donnons et devisons notre grand table d'or et d'argent tout pleyn dez precieuses reliques, et en mylieu un croiz *de ligno sancte crucis* ; et la dite table est garniz de pierres et de perles, cest assavoir yingt cynk *7* balois, trentquatre safirs, cinquaut parles grosses et pluso's outres safirs, emeraudes, et perles petitz, a la haut autier de N'RE MESON D'ASHERUGGE *Q'EST DE N'RE FUNDATIOUN*, a servir perpetuelement au dit autier, sanz james le mettre en autre oeps pur nul meschiefs ; et de ce chargeons les almes du rectour et du convent de la d'te meson a respondre devant Dieu."

It is evident then that the Black Prince considered himself, and was considered, (how justly besides the aforementioned legacy appears not,) the founder of this College ; which the Will,

\* This alludes to what respects confession, &c. From *In capitulo*, p. 11, to *Comite Fundatore*, &c. which directions are expunged by the Bishop.

† "Johannes Episc. Lincoln," viz. John Bokyngham. See the next note.

‡ John Bokyngham was consecrated Bishop of Lincoln in June 1363. He died in 1393. Le Neve's Fasti. p. 140.

§ Nichols's Collection of Royal and Noble Wills, 4to. Lond. 1780, p. 71, note y.

\* Nichols's Collection of Royal and Noble Wills, 4to. Lond. 1780, pp. 71, 72.

† The *balois*, or *ballass*, is a species of rubies of a vermeil rose colour.

‡ See the preceding paragraph. The Prince surely could not mean to deprive the Earl of Cornwall of all merit in the establishment, and thus transfer the whole to himself. Later times, however, witnessed such conduct in King Henry the Eighth, in regard to Christ Church College, Oxford, and the founder, Cardinal Wolsey.



and the Statutes in the Episcopal Registry, evince. The fact probably was this. The revenues of the College might not, in the Prince's time, be sufficient to support the whole number of ecclesiasticks, which, nearly a century before, had been appointed by the Earl of Cornwall. The Prince therefore became their *patron*, as indeed he is expressly called in the Episcopal statutes; and the revenues of the College, no doubt, were so augmented as to warrant the designation of a *founder*, which others conferred and himself admitted. His benefaction to the Chapel of St. Nicholas in Wallingford is recorded with a similar form of appropriation; "*notre Chapelle de Saint Nicholas*;" whereas this Chapel<sup>b</sup> had subsisted in the beginning of King John's reign, if not before; and had been greatly augmented by Edmund Earl of Cornwall; though it is not denied, that the Prince encreased the revenues also of this religious house.

But though the Statutes in the Register of the College take no notice of Prince Edward's bounty, a mandate of Ralph de Aston, the Rector, in 1379, records him among the benefactors of the house, and shews that the members considered themselves bound to pray "*specialiter pro animabus excellentissimi Principis Edwardi primogeniti Edwardi tercii Regis Anglie, et Johannis de Grey militis, et omnium fidelium defunctorum, etc.*" No further mention of the Prince occurs in the Register, in which the date of the latest deed is the 6th of October, 1493.

After the Statutes, the Register of the College exhibits the customs attending the admission of brethren; which are too curious to be here omitted. We have already seen<sup>a</sup> what were the impediments to admission. The candidates having replied to the Rector's question, "*an aliquod impedimentorum habeant predictorum*," that they had none: the direction of the rubrick is, that the Rector shall appoint a day, "*quo, preparatis sibi omnibus necessariis suis, radi debeant, et habitum sancte religionis assumere. Die igitur statuto, convenient Rector et Conventus in locum ad hoc deputatum, sintque Recepti ibidem privati, regulariter preter habitum vestiti, habentes pallium seculare circa se. Aptatis igitur eisdem ad rasuram, dicat Rector circa barbam tondendam hanc oracionem.*"

" Dominus nobiscum. Oremus.

" Deus, cuius spiritu creatura omnis adulta congaudet incrementis, exaudi preces nostras super hunc famulum tuum N iuvenilis etatis decore letantem, et primis auspiciis attendendum. Exaudi, Domine, ut celestem benedictionem accipiat, et presentis vite gaudia et eterne. Per Dominum, etc.

" *Deinde ad coronam radendam iterum dicat Rector.* Dominus nobiscum. Oremus. Presta, quesumus, omnipotens Deus, ut huic famulo tuo N, qui ad deponendam comam capitis sui propter amorem Christi filii tui festinat, des Spiritum Sanctum qui habitum religionis in eo perpetuo custodiat, et a mundi impedimento vel seculari desiderio cor eius defendat; ut sicut immutato vultu, ita manus dextera tua ei virtutis tribuat incrementa, ut ab omni cecitate humana oculos eius aperiatur, et lumen eternitatis gratia tua concedat. Per eundem Dominum, in unitate eiusdem. *Statim subjungat Receptus.* Tu es, Domine, qui restitues michi hereditatem meam, *vel* Dominus pars hereditatis mee et calicis mei. *Iterum repetatur,* Tu es, Domine, etc. *Postea dicitur a Conventu autem,* Hic accipiet benedictionem a Domino et misericordiam a Deo salutari suo. Hec est generacio querencium Dominum. Ps. Domini est terra, *usque ad ver. v.* Hic accipiet. *Repetatur autem,* Hic accipiet.

<sup>a</sup> Nichols's Coll. of Wills, p. 72.

<sup>b</sup> Ibid. And Tanner's Not. Mon.

<sup>c</sup> Registrum Coll. de Asherugge.

<sup>d</sup> See the Statutes, p. 13.

<sup>e</sup> Of the shaving or cutting off the hair by the monks, many have written differently; as Isidorus, Albinus, Amalarius, Ceolfridus, Lindwood. See Sir Roger Twisden's Acc. of the Begin. of a Monastick Life, p. 39. St. Austin is said to have reproved some monks in his time for being *criniti*. "Clericus neque comam nutriat, neque barbam!" Concil. Carthag. canon. 44.

<sup>f</sup> The tonsure or shaving of the head, leaving so much in a circular form as to resemble a kind of crown. "Iste est ordo tonsuræ: Comam desubtus *in rotundum detondeant*, usque ad summum auricularum, fronte libera apparente, et collo prorsus detecto; corona desuper lata et *similiter rotunda formetur*, scilicet ut ambitus capillorum inter medium caput cingens latum modicus et æqualiter *rotundus* appareat." This was an ancient form, which was afterwards varied. V. Du Cange in voce CORONA CLERICALIS.



## “ Sequitur Oratio.

“ Oremus. Presta, quesumus, omnipotens Deus, huic famulo tuo N, cuius hodie comam capitis pro divino amore deposuimus, ut in tua dilectione perpetuò maneat, et eum sine macula in sempiternum custodias. Per Dominum. *Post tonsuram verò regulariter preparatam, accedat Receptus ante <sup>s</sup> Prelatum flexis genibus; quem Prelatus habitu seculari exuat, dicens,* Exuat te Dominus veterem hominem cum actibus suis. *Conventus respondeat,* Amen. *Dum induat habitum religionis, dicat iterum Prelatus,* Induat te Dominus novum hominem, qui secundum Deum creatus est in iusticia et veritate sanctitatis. *Conventus respondeat,* Amen. *Deinde dicat Prelatus super eum hanc orationem.*

“ Dominus nobiscum. Oremus. Adesto, Domine, supplicationibus nostris, et hunc famulum tuum N benedicere dignare, cui in tuo nomine habitum sacre religionis imponimus, ut, te largiente, devotus in ecclesia consistere et vitam percipere mereatur eternam. Per Dominum nostrum. Benedicamus Domino.

“ *Tunc statuatur eis Rector annum probationis, et assignet eis magistrum cui intendant, precipiens eis quòd eidem magistro suo sint obedientes. Pars ea in chorum processionalitèr introducantur: ubi dum canitur Veni Creator, ante altare iaceant prostrati. Finito ymno, dicatur a choro, modesta voce, Kyrie eleeýson, Christe eleeýson, Kyrie eleeýson, et Pater noster. Deinde dicat Prelatus, Et ne nos ind.’ Emitte Spiritum tuum et cre.’ Salvos fac servos tuos. Mitte eis, Domine, auxilium de sancto. Esto eis, Domine, turris fortitudinis. Nichil proficiat inimicus in eis. Domine, exaudi orationem nostram.*

## “ Oratio.

“ Dominus vobiscum. Oremus. Deus, qui corda fidelium Sancti Spiritus illustratione docuisti, da nobis in eodem spiritu recta sapere; et de eius semper consolacione gaudere.

## “ Oratio.

“ Pretende, Domine, famulis tuis dexteram celestis auxilii, ut te toto corde perquirant, et que dignè postulant assequantur. Per Dominum nostrum Jesum Chr. fil. tuum.

“ *Post annum probationis Noviciorum, si eorum conversacio Fratribus placet, tum in capitulum introducantur; et requiratur ab eis si secundum regulam beati Augustini et has Fratrum institutiones velint profiteri. Quibus in hoc consencientibus, admittatur eorum professio, ita quòd unusquisque singillatim profiteatur, manus suas unitas inter manus Rectoris tenendo et ista verba dicendo:*

“ Ego N voveo et facio professionem, et promitto obedienciam Deo et beate Marie et tibi N Rectori de Assherugge, secundum regulam beati Augustini et institutiones Bonorum hominum loci eiusdem; et quòd ero obediens tibi tuisque successoribus usque ad mortem.

“ *Postea <sup>h</sup> benedicatur suis habitus, sc. tunica cum scapulari, ita dicendo.* Oremus. Deus, qui tegimen nostre mortalitatis induere dignatus es, presta, quesumus, ut hoc genus vestimentorum quod sancti patres nostri ad sanctitatis et innocentie indicium ferre sanxerunt ita bene ✠ dicere digneris, ut qui hoc usus fuerit mereatur te induere Christum Dominum nostrum. Amen. *Et sic vestiantur vestimenta sua exuendo et habitum benedictum assumendo.*

## “ Observancie Noviciorum.

“ Ut Novicii Ordinem Domus Sanguinis Jesu Christi de Assherugge ingredientes ritè et religiosè tractentur et custodiantur, Ordinatum est, inter Fratres loci eiusdem, quòd Novicii quicumque fuerint post ingressum suum in licitis et honestis obediant magistro suo sibi per Rectorem deputando, ita quòd sine ipso cum secularibus et maximè extraneis non habeant colloquium longum seu tractatum. Item nec litteras seu nuncios mittant alicubi sine magistro suo predicto. Nec eant spaciatum cum aliquo si sine ipso, vel saltem sine licencia eiusdem. Item non eant cum aliquo extra clausum Manerii de Assherugge, donec fuerint professi.

<sup>s</sup> Here the bishop exercises his office, in conformity to ancient practice, viz. “ ut nullus *præter episcopum* clericis coronas benedicere præsumat, etc.” Concil. Pictav. canon. 1. There were, however, exceptions to this, in privileges granted to some abbots to pronounce the benediction at the ceremony of the tonsure, and also upon ecclesiastical vestments. See Miss. Rom. “ Benedictiones ab episcopis, vel *aliis facultatem habentibus*, faciendæ.”  
<sup>h</sup> See the preceding note.



Ordinatum est insuper, quòd Novicii dicti qui periciam psallendi minus benè noverunt, quòd reddant infra librum coram magistro suo predicto Antiphon' et Gradale. Item omnes indistinctè reddent corde tenus regulam beati Augustini cum constitutionibus Bonorum Hominum loci eiusdem, et Commune Sanctorum, cum ympnis et psalmis suis; et commemoracionem beate Marie per totum annum, cum ympnis et psalmis suis; et hystoriam de corpore et sanguine Jesu Christi, cum ympnis et psalmis suis. Preterea semper sint parati ad ministrandum in ecclesia et alibi ubi necesse et decens fuerit. Et libenter legant pro *fratribus* suis in mensa et collacione cùm ab eis fuerint requisiti. In premissis tamen poterit *Rector* dispensare addendo vel minuendo prout sibi viderit expedire.

“ *Modus recipiendi Fratres in oracionibus.*

“ *Correctionibus capituli peractis, Recipiendi in capitulum introducantur, et fraternitatem devotè petant. Qua concessa, Rector fraternitatis observancias et utilitates exponant eisdem. Deinde eos recipiat hoc modo.*

“ In fraternitatem huius congregacionis te [vel vos] suscipimus in presenti, ita quòd ab isto die eris particeps omnium beneficiorum que de nocte vel die fiunt in hac Fratrum congregacione, veluti in missis, matutinis et aliis horis, diurnis et nocturnis oracionibus, peculiaribus disciplinis, vigiliis, ieiuniis, et omnibus aliis beneficiis inter nos actualiter usitatis: que omnia prefata tibi concordi et unanimi concedimus voluntate. Et rogamus ut Deus, pro sua magna pietate, hanc fraternitatem sic tibi recipere tribuat, et amodò sic vitam tuam et devocionem penes ipsum Deum et istam ecclesiam continuare concedat, quod sibi cedat ad honorem istius ecclesie commodum et perfectum, et tam corpori tuo quam anime saluberrimam medicinam. Amen. *Deinde subiungatur a',* Suscepimus, Deus, misericordiam tuam in medio templi tui. *Ps.* Magnus Dominus et laudabilis nimis. *Totus dicatur psalmus cum Gloria Patri et Sicut erat. Quo dicto, repetatur tota a',* Suscepimus, etc. *Deinde sequatur, Kyriel,' Christel,' Kyriel,' Pater Noster, Et ne nos, Set libera, Ostende nobis Domine misericordiam tuam, Et salutare f. Memor esto congregacionis tue, Quam possedisti ab inicio, Tu mandasti mandata tua, Custodiri nimis, Ecce quam bonum et quam iocundum, Habitare fratres in unum. Domine, exaudi oracionem nostram. Et clamor, Dominus nobiscum. Oremus.*

“ *Oracio.*

“ Suscipiat vos Deus Pater in numero fidelium suorum; et nos licèt indigni suscipimus in oracionibus nostris; concedatque vobis per Unigenitum suum Mediatorem Dei et hominis locum benè agendi et instanciam benè perseverandi, et ad eterne vite hereditatem feliciter perveniendi; et sicut nos hodiè caritas fraternitatis specialiter coniungit in terris, ita divina pietas que fraterne dileccionis est auctrix et amatrix cum fidelibus suis coniungere dignetur in celis. Per Christum Dominum nostrum. *R.* Amen. *Et hec omnia stando dicantur, ita quòd Recepti in fraternitate interim genuflectionem faciant. Quibus finitis, surgant et deosculentur Fratres. Et si mulieres sint, deosculentur manus Fratrum; et sic recedant.*

“ *Constitutio pro Fratribus defunctis.*

“ Universis sancte matris ecclesie filiis istas observancias inspecturis, iuxta institutionem felicis memorie fratris <sup>1</sup> *Ricardi de Watford Rectoris* Domus de Asherugge et eiusdem loci Conventus institutas, presens scriptum explanat. Quia sanctum ac salubre est pro defunctis orare ut a peccatis solvantur, fragilem vitam nostram inspicientes et aliquo beneficio post decessum nostrum indigentes, decrevimus, quòd cum *frater* aliquis istius Domus viam universe carnis fuerit ingressus, ut in illo die in quo sepelitur, unà cum tricesimo die, defunctus habeat unum panem maioris ponderis et unam lagenam servisie de cellario et unum ferculum de coquina; diebus verò aliis singulis per totum primum annum post obitum suum, habeat unum panem predicti ponderis et unam lagenam servisie tantum; quod quidè pro anima sua decrevimus fore erogandum.

<sup>1</sup> The first Rector of the College.



"Decrevimus eciam, quòd cùm dies tricesimus adveniat, fiat commemoratio ipsius *Fratris* defuncti proximo die sequenti, videlicet, quo decreverunt secundum Regulam suam pro fidelibus defunctis esse orandum, et sic sub uno comprehendantur. Et tunc tam ad vigiliis quam ad missam principalis oratio pro ipso defuncto dicatur. Vigilie eciam ad ipsius instanciam solempnius celebrentur. Idem verò de diebus anniversariorum suorum singulis annis decrevimus esse observandum. Hoc eciam generaliter observetur de omnibus anniversariis sive *Fratrum* sive aliorum defunctorum, salvis <sup>k</sup> quinque principalibus anniversariis in constitutionibus nostris contentis. Quòd si plura concurrant in una ebdomada, in uno die vel in divisis, quòd celebrentur et comprehendantur omnia sub uno, in illo die quo *Fratres* iudicaverunt secundum Regulam suam pro defunctis esse celebrandum; cùm sancta ecclesia non iudicat pro uno tantùm, set pro fidelibus defunctis esse postulandum. Solempnius tamen celebrentur, quo plura anniversaria supradicto modo fuerunt coadunata. Quod ne posteris veniat in dubium, et ne alicuius machinatione possit avelli, hanc constitutionem sigilli communis appositione, unà cum sigillo *Rectoris* duximus roborandam. Tandem ne aliquid pretermittatur, eo die quo *Frater* sepelitur, scriptum istud in capitulo coram *Fratribus* legatur. Dat. per manum dicti *Rectoris*. Anno gracie mill'mo cc.<sup>mo</sup> nonagesimo p'mo."

These customs and constitutions are followed by ordinances respecting the obits and exequies of benefactors, and the foundation of chantries in which the masses for their souls should be celebrated; of John <sup>1</sup> Ludham, Canon of the Cathedral Church of London and Rector of Tring; of Thomas de <sup>m</sup> Hatfeld, Bishop of Durham, together with King Edward the Third, "*sub cuius alis dictus venerabilis pater se asserit à iuventute fuisse nutritum*," the Bishop's father, mother, brother, and sisters, his predecessors as well as successors in the see, and the souls of all faithful people, for ever; the College making the following reservations: "Nisi legitimo et notorio impedimento per nos inevitabilem, utpote per communem pestilenciam in provincia Cant' et locis vicinis dicte ecclesie nostre, aut discrimina guerrarum, vel invasionem

<sup>k</sup> Viz. The Anniversaries of the Father and Mother of the Founder, of Peter Earl of Alençon his kinsman, of Beatrice Countess of Richmond his kinswoman, and of the Founder himself.

<sup>1</sup> Joh. de Ludham was instituted to the Prebend of Hoxton, in the Church of St. Paul's, Non. Nov. 1363. See Newcourt's Dioc. of London, vol. i. p. 163.

<sup>m</sup> Tho. de Hatfeld was consecrated Bishop of Durham, July 10, 1345. He died in 1381; but where he was buried, Le Neve and Henry Wharton knew not. See Wharton's Anglia Sacra, P. i. p. 773, and Le Neve's Fasti, p. 346. The whole ordinance respecting this prelate, made while he was living, is curious; and is copied from the Register of the College in the following words: "Omnibus hoc scriptum indentatum sextipartitum visuris, vel audituris, Nos Rector Domus de Assherugge et ejusdem loci Conventus Lincoln' Dioc' salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noverint universitas vestra, quòd nos pro pluribus beneficiis que venerabilis pater dominus *Thomas de Hatfeld*, Dei gratià *Dunolmens'* episcopus, in honore Omnipotentis Dei, ac preciosissimi sanguinis Domini nostri Jesu Christi, ob cuius reverenciam dicta Domus nostra fundata consistit, necnon sanctissimi Cuthberti, almi confessoris et patroni dicti venerabilis patris, in pios et utiles usus dicte ecclesie nostre contulit efficacius committenda ex unanimi voluntate, et consensu, ac sufficienti deliberatione previa, per presentes nos et successores nostros astringimus, et recognoscimus nos astrictos, concedimus pro nobis et successoribus nostris, quòd in ecclesia nostra predicta ad altare sancti *Johannis Baptiste* ex parte ecclesie nostre boreali ad hoc specialiter per nos deputatum, singulis diebus per unum Capellanum idoneum confratrem nostrum, seu alium religiosum, vel secularem Capellanum vita et moribus sufficientem, pro salute dicti venerabilis patris dum vixerit, et pro anima ejusdem cum ab hac luce migraverit: Necnon pro anima illustrissimi Principis domini *Edwardi tercii*, nuper *Regis Anglie*, sub cuius alis dictus venerabilis pater se asserit a juventute fuisse nutritum, animabusque *Johannis* patris sui, *Margerie* matris sue, domini *Willielmi* militis patris sui, *Johanne* et *Margarete* sororum

suarum, predecessorum et successorum suorum *Dunolmensium* Episcoporum, ac animabus omnium fidelium defunctorum, missam absque fraude et dolo perpetuis temporibus faciemus celebrari, diebus cene Domini Parasceves et Sabbati sancti exceptis.

"Et quia cooperante Spiritu Sancto penas in presenti scripto expressatas studebimus totis viribus evitare, promittimus bona fide, quòd tenor presencium literarum, concessionum, et astriccionis nostre, semel in anno publicè in capitulo nostro coram confratribus Domus nostre predictæ, in domo capitulari nostra more debito et solito congregatis, perlegetur, presidensque qui pro tempore fuerit ad servandum inviolabiliter concessionem nostram supradictam injunget et precipiet, in virtute sancte obediencie, omnibus et singulis confratribus dicte Domus, qui tunc presentes fuerunt, ad observandum inviolabiliter, promissa quatenus ad eos pertinuerit, in singulis suis articulis supradictis.

"Et sicut nos Rector et confratres dicte Domus nostre omnes et singuli ad promissa omnia et singula fideliter observanda promissimus bona fide, successores nostri omnes et singuli perpetuis temporibus tempore professionis sue, vel infra annum eorum professionem immediate sequentem, promittent consimiliter bona fide.

"Promittimus etiam bona fide pro nobis et successoribus nostris, quòd cum dictum venerabilem patrem per Omnipotentem Salvatorem ab hac vita vocari contigerit, diem anniversarium obitus sui in Martilogio nostro inseremus et inseri faciemus, ac nos et successores nostri eundem diem anniversarium cum exequiis, et missarum solempniis, ac oracionum suffragiis, per Rectorem, vel Correctorem, aut aliam Domus nostre venerabilem personam, per quam commodius et honorabilius fieri poterit, sicut pro Rectore fieri est consuetum, solempniter et cum nota celebrabimus, et faciemus perpetuis temporibus celebrari. Ad que omnia et singula fideliter adimplenda obligamus nos et successores nostros, ac Domum nostram de Assherugge predictam et omnia bona nostra mobilia et immobilia, etc."



hostium, vel per subitam combustionem dicte Domus nostre ita notoriam et notabilem quòd per aliquod huiusmodi impedimentum seu infortunia prenominata, (quod absit,) adeo bona dicte Domus nostre consumpta fuerunt, ut ad necessaria onera ordinaria, et sine quibus debita religio in dicta Domo nostra non poterit observari, sufficere non poterunt; et tunc cessante huiusmodi impedimento, absque dilacione seu contradiccione obice faciemus singulis diebus per confratres nostros, aut alios capellanos idoneos, Missam in forma premissa absque fraude et dolo perpetuis temporibus celebrari, diebus Cene Domini, Parasceues, et Sabbati sancti exceptis." This deed bears the date of 1380: the preceding, in which the Black Prince is named, (as "already noticed), that of July 4, 1379.

The next benefactor, whose memory is thus distinguished, is ° Henry, Bishop of Lincoln; the mass for whose soul, and for the souls of his parents and relations, is directed to be celebrated at the altar of Mary Magdalene and the Virgin Katherine in the Conventual Church; near which the body of one of these relations had been buried. The Bishop was indebted to the Convent for their affection, on account of having confirmed to it the appropriation of the Church of Ambrosden. This instrument, which is written in a hand different from the preceding document in the Register, bears the date of January 5, 1336; and had, no doubt, been omitted to be duly entered by the regular transcriber of the book.

After these, are recited the donations of John ° Thorpe, Priest, who gave fifty marks, besides other presents, in order that he might have the benefit of the prayers, and the privilege of being inserted in the martyrology, of the Convent. The munificence of Robert Newton, mentioned in general terms, is the next recorded act; in which the Rector and Brethren engage that mass should be said for his soul. To this succeeds the gift of forty marks, with other tokens of liberality, by Thomas Brampston, Priest; who, in consideration of his

° See before, p. 16.

° Viz. Henry Burwash, or de Burghersh, who was consecrated Bishop of Lincoln in 1320, and died in 1340. See Le Neve's Fasti. p. 140. His instrument, by which the appropriation of Ambrosden, made by Pope Clement the Fifth to Ashridge, was confirmed, bears the date of September 29, 1334. Kennet's Paroch. Antiq. p. 423.

° The following ordinance recites the benefactions of John Thorpe, Thomas Brampston, and Robert Newton; and herein mention is made of one of the Mills at Hemelhemsted belonging to the College, with certain regulations respecting it. Where the reparaciones dicti molendini are directed, there occurs at the bottom of the page in the Register of the College the following observation, written in a different hand: "Notandum quòd decimacio feni à molendino fullonum ad to-Waters usque ad molendinum quod vocatur *Parcars mylle* pertinet molendino conventuali, quod est situm inter ambo."

"Omnes Christi fidelibus hoc presens scriptum visuris, vel audituris, Nos Johannes Whytton Rector Domus de Assh-rugg et ejusdem loci Conventus, Lincoln, Dioc', Salutem in Domino sempiternam. Quum ex caritativa liberalitate benefactorum nostrorum magistri *Johannis Thorpe*, magistri *Thome Brampston*, et *Roberti Newton*, quendam summam pecunie ad manifestam et notariam domus nostre utilitatem recepimus, et ad exorandum pro ipsorum salute animarum in sempiternum nos obligavimus, necnon certam pecuniam in eorum anniversariis diebus distribuere astricti sumus, et perpetualiter tene-mur prout in quibusdam literis indentatis inter nos inde con-fectis, sigilloque nostro communi signatis, plenius apparet.

"Hinc equè nos prefati Rector et Conventus ex unanimi assensu, et voluntate, ac previa deliberatione habita, pro nobis et successoribus nostris decrevimus quòd à tempore conces-sionis nostre huiusmodi, et deinceps usque in sempiternum, totus redditus annualis ex molendino nostro inferiori apud *Hemelhemsted* proveniens tam ad conservacionem obligacionis nostre predictæ per prefatam distribucionem annuatim facienda, quàm pro expensis reparacionum ejusdem molendini prout necessitas exigit, in cista communi una cum sigillo nostro con-ventuali per suspensionem Rectoris et seniorum securè servari faciemus.

"Concedimus itaque quòd duo fratrum nostrorum per assignacionem Rectoris et seniorum domus ad *superintenden-dum reparaciones dicti molendini* deputentur, quatenus cùm aliquid reparari necesse fuerit quam citius convenienter fieri poterit reparetur, ne redditus ob defectum reparacionis dimi-nuatur, et quòd singulis annis totus ejusdem molendini redditus bis, videlicet festa Pasche et Sancti Michelis, expensis repa-racionum deductis et allocatis, senioribus domus deliberetur in cista communi, ut supra dictum est, ponendus et custodiendus.

"Quòd ne posteris veniat in dubium, et ne alicujus machi-nacione possit avelli; sicut nos Rector et Fratres dicte domus ad premissa omnia fideliter observanda promissimus, successores nostri omnes et singuli perpetuis temporibus in professione sua promittent consimiliter bona fide, et ob hoc hanc ordina-cionem sigilli nostri communis appositione una cum sigillo Rectoris duximus roborandam. Dat. per manum predicti Rectoris in Domo nostra capitulari vicesimo sexto die mensis Octobris anno Dominice Incarnacionis millesimo quadringen-tesimo nonagesimo tercio, et anno regni regis Henrici septimo nono."

° The following ordinance recites them:

"Anteris sancte matris ecclesie filiis hoc presens scrip-tum indentatum visuris, vel legi audituris, Nos Johannes Rec-tor Domus sive Collegii de Assh-rugge et ejusdem loci Con-ventus, Lincoln' Dioc', Salutem in Domino sempiternam. Quum magister *Thomas Brampston*, sacerdos, instinctu, ut piè creditur, divino, de anime sue salute non immemor, in publicam dicte domus nostre utilitatem *quadraginta marcas argenti cum certis aliis muneribus nobis liberaliter donavit*: Noveritis quòd nos tantis pro beneficiis caritative nobis impensis, *ceterisque humanitatis officiis per ipsum in doctrina tam fratribus quam pueris nostre domus clericulis per plures annos exhibitis, et ostensis*, ad condignam recompensam devociones nostras ob-ligare volentes oracionum, jejuniorum, vigiliarum, discipli-narum, ac omnium spiritualium suffragiorum, que in ecclesia nostra fiunt, et in futurum nocte ac die fient, plenam partici-pacionem eidem, quantum cum Deo possimus, unanimi con-sensu nostro ac omnium domus nostre confratrum pro nobis et successoribus nostris damus, concedimus, bonaque fide promittimus.



bounty, is admitted a confrater, and is promised the accustomed solemnity of a mass, as well as the annual observation of his obit by the Convent. Of this last ceremony a regulation presents itself in the case of John Thorpe, just mentioned; where the deed recites that, on his funeral anniversary, after the requiem is finished, "Rector xii.<sup>den</sup> denarios, Frater sacerdos viii.<sup>den</sup> denarios, quilibet Frater novicius quatuor denarios recipiet, ut pro prefati magistri Johannis anime et supradictarum animarum salute *devocius* intercedant." The preceding benefactions of Thorpe, Newton, and Brampston, are all of the fifteenth century.

A benefactor of great importance appears in the next deed, viz. Richard Peteworthe, Clerk, one of the domesticks of Cardinal Henry Beaufort, Bishop of Winchester; who gave the Convent a hundred pounds for the repair, or rather the rebuilding, of the choir; at a time too when they stood in pressing need of such assistance. For the Rector calls his bounty "*relevamen ad presens nobis attentis tam onerosis reparacionibus Claustris, Dormitorii, et Chori nostrorum, quàm aliis necessitatibus nostris quibus vehementer angimur et prevenimur.*"

The commemoration of this munificent benefactor is followed by that of his master, the bishop of Winchester; whose friendship to this Convent was exemplified in his bestowing on it the rectory of the Church of Ivingho, in the County of Buckingham. The licence for this donation, and for the appropriation which attended it, bears date the 27th of May, in the first year of king Henry the fifth.

"*Rex* omnibus ad quos, &c. Salutem. Sciatis quòd de gratia nostra speciali concessimus et licenciam dedimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris, quantum in nobis est, venerabili patri Henrico, Episcopo Wynton, avunculo nostro carissimo, quòd ipse de assensu Prioris et Conventus Ecclesie sue Sancti Swithini Wynton advocacionem Ecclesie de *Ivynghe* in Com. Buck. quam idem Episcopus de nobis tenet ut parcellam episcopatus sui predicti, ut dicitur, dare possit et assignare, pro se et successoribus suis, dilectis nobis in Christo *Rectori et Fratibus de Assherugge* in Com. predicto. Habend' et tenend' sibi et successoribus suis imperpetuum. Et eisdem Rectori et Fratibus, quòd ipsi advocacionem predictam à prefato Episcopo de assensu antedicto recipere et dictam Ecclesiam de *Ivynghe* appropriare, et Ecclesiam illam sic appropriatam in proprios usus tenere possint sibi et successoribus suis,

"Pro nobis etiam ac successoribus nostris concedimus quòd cum dictus magister Thomas ab hoc seculo migraverit, et ejus anniversarius dies obitus, quem nostro in Martilogio inscribi faciemus, singulis annis advenerit, eundem diem aut alium secundum usum Sar' magis convenientem pro anima ejusdem magistri Thome, cum exequiis, et missarum solemnibus, oracionumque suffragiis, honorabiliter cum nota celebrabimus, perpetuisque temporibus faciemus celebrari, atque duodecem denarios cuilibet fratri professo annuatim erogabimus, et perpetualiter distribuimus. Ad que omnia et singula inperpetuum, ut predictum est, benè et fideliter observanda obligamus nos et successores nostros per presentes. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum commune presentibus indentatis literis apposimus, quarum unam partem penes nos, alteram verò partem penes prefatum magistrum Thomam et ejus assignatos volumus permanere. Dat' in domo nostra capitulari vicesimo sexto die mensis Octobris anno regni regis Henrici septimi nono."

<sup>1</sup> Registr. ut suprà.

<sup>2</sup> Tower Records. Rot. Lit. Pat. anno primo Regis Henrici quinti. p. 5. mem. 2.

<sup>3</sup> The Bull of Pope Martin for this appropriation is dated March 5, 1420. Regist. Fleming, Ep. Lincoln. The bishop of Winchester, in his donation, decrees a competent salary for a vicarage at Ivingho. An attested copy of this appropriation from the Register of the Bishop of Lincoln is among the Earl of Bridgewater's papers.

In this parish of *Ivingho*, (in which also great part of the park at *Ashridge* is,) stood the *Nunnery of St. Margaret*; where there is now a small but neat modern house. Of the ancient building there is nothing remarkable remaining. Indeed in Browne Willis's time, nearly a century since, there was

little of the old edifice left; and the only thing then recorded as observable was the following coat of arms in a window: *Gules a dragon pierced in the back with a sword, in his mouth a crucifix.* See Br. Willis's *Mitred Abbies*, vol. ii. p. 23.

It does not appear that this religious house was, in any degree, dependent upon Ashridge. Being so near to the latter, I have thought it, however, not uninteresting to collect some scattered notices of this humble neighbour, and to incorporate them in these pages. It was a Benedictine Nunnery, founded by Henry de Blois, bishop of Winchester, about the year 1160, to the honour of St. Margaret, for the maintenance of nine religious women. See Tanner's *Notitia Monast.* ed. 1744. p. 27. These Nuns are called, in a Charter of king Henry the third, *Moniales S. Margaretæ de bosco de Ivingho*. The spot is near five miles from Ivingho, and is woody and romantic. The possessions of this house were but small. In the first return, made by king Henry the eighth's commissioners, the survey exhibited a valuation less than was given in a subsequent one. "The Priory or Nunnery of the Order of St. Benet, the clere value at first survey 13 *li.* 3 *s.* 4 *d.* at the second survey 19 *li.* 8 *s.* 9 *d.* Nunnes there 5, whereof profest 2; Novices 3; desyring capacitys 3; Servants 4, whereof hinds 2; Women Servants 2; bells, lead, and other buildings, worth 8 *li.* 10 *s.* 6 *d.* The house in competent estate: the entire value of the moveable goods worth 1 *li.* 13 *s.* 4 *d.* the woods 7 acres, all above 20 years growth. Debts, &c. none." See Br. Willis's *Mit. Abb.* ut supr. The last valuation, however, according to Speed, was 22 *li.* 6 *s.* 7 *d.* but according to Dugdale, 14 *li.* 3 *s.* 1 *d.* per annum. These possessions were granted to Sir John Dance, 29 Hen. VIII. The following is a list of Prioresses, collected from the dispersed accounts of Willis and Tanner:



ad exonerand' et faciend' pro salubri statu nostro ac pro salubri statu dicti avunculi nostri dum vixerimus, et pro animabus nostris cum ab hac luce migraverimus, etc." Nor was this the only mark of the bishop's attachment to the College of Ashridge. He contributed both to the repairs and the ornaments of it; giving "ad Clastrum, Dormitorium, Infirmariam, et Sacristariam, à fundamentis de novo edificandas, quingentas libras auri; duo eciam integra vestimenta cum capis optimo auro contextis." The tripartite instrument, by which the College engages to celebrate his \* exequies with the greatest solemnity, is dated the 7th day of July, 1477; one copy of which is directed to be placed in the archives of the Cathedral Church of Winchester, a second in those of the Cathedral Church of Lincoln, and the third in those of Ashridge.

The memory of Thomas Arundel, archbishop of Canterbury, is also recorded among those, for whose souls the Rector and Brethren were to perform masses; but without any particular specification of his bounty. We cannot, however, but conclude that he was a benefactor; as most probably all those were, whose names are inserted in the Martyrology; which I select in the order of their entry, after the mention of the day of their death.

Dominus Thomas Knyghton, confrater.

Wynsolaus Dorsteynor, confrater.

Lucia Stamwolle.

Thomas Stone, confrater.

Henricus Attewod, confrater.

Cristina Pott.

Magister Johannes Thorpe, et parentes eius.

Johanna Sapcot, et Domina Agnes Whytyngham.

Willielmus Hylle, confrater.

Jacobus Turnay, et Elyzabeth uxor eius, Willielmus et Margareta parentes eiusdem.

Thomas Hawford, Alicia uxor eius, et dominus Symon Hawford filius eorum.

\* Rogerus de Martivalle, episcopus Sarisburiensis.

Beatrix Richemundie Comitissa.

Ricardus Rex Alemannie, pater Fundatoris.

Robertus Newton, confrater.

Petrus Comes Alensconie.

Henricus Beaufort, episcopus Wynton.

Johannes Wyleys, confrater.

Alicia Brook.

Johannes de Hale et Ricardus de Woluestone, confratres.

Radulfus Falliwolle.

Thomas de Hatfeld, episcopus Dunolmensis.

Owinus Williams, confrater.

Magister Thomas Brampston, confrater.

Adam Gardiner, confrater.

Isolda, who died in 1262.

Cecilia, who died in 1274.

Maud de Hoccliff, who died in 1296.

Isolda de Beauchamp, elected Sept. 16, 1296.

Sibilla de Hamsted, whose resignation is entered in the episcopal register at Lincoln in 1340.

Matilda de Chendry, or Cheyne, occurs in 1341. But no successor for the space of more than a century is recorded either by Tanner or Willis.

Elenor Crosse is the next, who died in 1467.

Elenor Tymes was chosen, in her room, on the second of June.

Elizabeth Wyvell, who died in 1534.

Margaret Hardwick was the last Prioress.

\* Registr. ut suprâ.

\* He died on the 11th of April, 1447. Le Neve's Fasti. p. 286.

\* Registr. ut suprâ. In the same instrument which records the bounty of Richard Petèworthe.

\* Roger de Martival was consecrated bishop of Salisbury in 1315, and died in 1329. Le Neve's Fasti. p. 258.



Edwardus Princeps Wallie et Dux Cornubie.  
 Frater Robertus, Monachus de Spalding.  
 Nicholas de Seybrok.  
 Johannes Byfeld, confrater.  
 Johannes de Ludham, confrater.  
 Johannes Hyll et Margeria uxor eius.  
 Lucia Wyleis.  
 Johannes Herteslee et Agnes uxor eius.  
 Robertus Scote.  
 Henricus Fallywolle.  
 Rex Anglie Henricus quintus.  
 Johannes Skegge et Alicia uxor eius, Ricardus Skegge et Juliana uxor eius.  
 Johanna Kele.  
 Johannes Aygnel, confrater.  
 Barnardus Brokes.  
 Edwardus Comes Cornubie, Fundator.  
 Thomas London, confrater.  
 Robertus Cary.  
 Willelmus de Wottone, confrater.  
 Walterus de Rodham.  
 Dominus Robertus Whityngham.  
 Ricardus Peteworthe.  
<sup>a</sup> Senchia regina, mater Fundatoris.  
 Thomas Chalton, confrater.  
<sup>b</sup> Johannes Hunden, episcopus Landavensis.  
 Ricardus Kele, confrater.  
 Johannes Cowper, confrater.  
 Dominus Willelmus Forde.  
 Willelmus Brook.  
 Dominus Alanus Stokes.

The names of many Brethren of the Convent are also found in this Register, as are those of several Rectors. The latter it will be proper to particularize; as the list will both rectify and augment what has been related by our antiquaries of these collegiate governours. I should premise that the College had a Visitor, by whom, as in Collegiate Bodies now, the disputes of the Brethren were settled; of whom the last was <sup>c</sup>Paul Bush, a man of great learning, the first Bishop of Bristol, by the patent of erection in 1542.

I. Ricardus, Rector soon after 1276.

II. Willielmus [de Harwold,] Rector.

III. Ricardus [de Sarret,] Rector 1335.

<sup>a</sup> See before, p. 14. note (2.)

<sup>b</sup> John Hunden had the temporalities of the see of Landaff restored in 1458. Godwin says, he resigned; but fixes no year. Le Neve's Fasti. p. 521. He held the Rectory of Little Gaddesden, Co. Herts, with his Bishoprick. Br. Willis's MSS.

<sup>c</sup> Browne Willis, Mitr. Abb. Tanner, Not. Monast. And Newcome's Hist. St. Alban's.

<sup>d</sup> He had been a priest among the Bonhommes at Edington in Wiltshire, and was an author. "Here begynneth a lytell

treatyse in Englysshe, called the Exposityon of *Miserere mei Deus*, translated by me Paule Busshe, preest and bonehome of Edyngton, the yere of our Lord, 1525." In verse. "A lytell treatise in English, called the extirpation of ignorancy, &c. Compiled by Sir Paule Bushe, priest and bonhome of Edynden." In verse also, without date. "A lytell boke containing certayne gostly medycynes agens the comon plage of pestilence." Without date. He died in 1558, aged 68. Le Neve's Fasti, Ames's Hist. of Printing, and Ritson's Bibliogr. Poetica.



IV. Gilbertus [de Bowelles,] Rector 1346.

V. Radulfus [de Aston,] Rector 1373, who died in 1396. There is a grant, among the Earl of Bridgewater's records, made by 'Ralph Aston and the College to Richard Purcas of Pychelestorne, of an acre of land in exchange, 43. Edw. III. having appended to it not the seal of the College, as some have supposed, but their particular seal for such purposes, their "sigillum ad causas;" (See Du Cange in V. CAUSÆ;) and inscribed simply "*Sigillum Rectoris de Assherugge.*"

VI. Johannes [de Trengre] Rector 1396.

VII. 'Johannes, Rector.

VIII. Abel, Rector.

IX. Robertus, Rector 1428.

X. Johannes, Rector 1435. This was probably Johannes Audelee, who is expressly named in the Register of the College as Rector in the year 1445. There was a John Awdelay, who was canon of the monastery of Haghmon in Shropshire in 1426, and has been classed among our metrical writers of the fifteenth century. But as he is described, at that period, as old, it is not probable that he was the person who was Rector of Ashridge.

XI. Johannes Whytton. He occurs as Rector in the ordinance cited in p. 20, which bears the date of the 9th year of Hen. VII. Probably he was the Johannes, Rector, by whom in the 2d year of Rich. III. was confirmed to the tenants of the honour of Wallingford and the honour of Berkhamsted the grant of being toll-free. See before, p. 6. note (4.)

XII. Radulfus, Rector.

XIII. Johannes [de Berkhamsted,] Rector. Resigned in 1521.

XIV. Johannes [Malden,] Rector 1521. He died the 12th of July, 1529.

XV. \*Thomas Waterhouse, Rector 1529. With this person the name and office of Rector expired; for by him the College was surrendered to king Henry the eighth, (of which event the next chapter presents a particular account,) and he survived the loss of this distinction many years. He was a gentleman of an <sup>h</sup> ancient family, and was Rector of Quainton in Buckinghamshire, as well as of this Society. He was brother of <sup>i</sup> John Waterhouse, of Hemelhemstedbury in Hertfordshire and of Whitchurch in Buckinghamshire, Esquire; and was termed by king Henry the eighth his *Gentleman-Priest*<sup>k</sup>; "for, says the author of this information, "it hath alwayes been the opinion of the wisest, *In heroicis familiis vim naturæ præstantiorem esse quàm in reliquâ multitudine.*" He was buried in the Church of Hemelhemsted, of which place he was a <sup>l</sup> native; and the monumental figure and inscription, designed to designate his burial-place, have been preserved in Morgan's *Sphere of Gentry*; of which a fac-simile is here given; and this is the inscription.

Hic jacet Thomas Waterhous Clericus  
quondam Magister sive Suberator  
Collegii Beatae Mariæ nuper de

\* "Stant presentes et futuri quod nos Frater Radulphus de Aston, Rector Domus de Assherugg et ejusdem loci Conventus dedimus, concessimus, et hac presenti carta nostra confirmavimus, Ricardo Purcas de Pychelestorn, heredibus et assignatis suis, unam acram terre jacent' in campo oriental' de Pychelestorn benethemore inter terram Ricardi Besemle ex parte orientali, et terram quondam Johannis atte Brugg ex parte occidentali, unde dicta acra de tenement' quondam Thome Morant, et alia dicta acra de ten.' quondam Ricardi Eltrugge, in excambium pro uno bosco vocato Adekynescroft jac.' inter terram quondam Ade Hod ex parte borial' et ten.' Johannis atte Mede junioris ex parte austral.' &c. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum ad causas huic presenti carte fecimus apponi, &c. Dat. apud Assherugg in festo Sancti Ambrosii anno regni Regis Edwardi tercii post conquestum quadragesimo tercio."

<sup>l</sup> It may be here observed, that for those of the name of Johannes and Radulphus, whose surnames are not known, the

obituary-entries are on different days, and therefore designate different persons.

\* Thus fifteen Rectors are found; whereas eleven only have hitherto been enumerated, including Thomas Waterhouse, whose obit is not among the above, because indeed he flourished long after this Register had been written.

<sup>h</sup> Morgan's *Sphere of Gentry*, lib. 2. p. 71. Fuller's *Worthies*, fol. 1662. p. 31.

<sup>i</sup> This John Waterhouse was auditor to king Henry VIII. and is said to have given that monarch a great entertainment at his house, which Chauncy supposes to have been that at Hemsted Bury. See Chauncy's *Hist. of Hertf.* p. 547.

<sup>k</sup> Morgan, ut supr. p. 71.

<sup>l</sup> Fuller, ut supr. p. 31. Newcome, in his history of St. Alban's, says that Waterhouse was buried at Little Berkhamsted or North Church: but we see that Waterhouse ordered in his will, that he should be buried at Hemelhemsted.





Hic iacet Thomas Waterhous Clericus quondam Magister  
sive Subernator venerabilis Collegij Beatae Mariae nuper de  
Aberuge: nec non Rector Ecclesiae de Napinton qui  
obijt X<sup>mo</sup> die Mensis Maij. Anno Domini Millesimo  
Quingentesimo Quinquagesimo quarto. cuius anima  
Propitiatur Deus. Amen.







Assherugge: Pet non Rector Ecclesiae  
 de Quainton: Qui obiit xxiii.<sup>o</sup>  
 die Mensis Maij Anno Domini  
 millesimo quingentesimo quinquagesimo  
 quarto: Cuius animae propitiatur Deus. Amen.

"His will," says Fuller<sup>m</sup>, "acquainteth us with the *wardrobe* of men of his order, towards the end of the reign of queen Mary. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen. I *Thomas Waterhouse*, Priest of the Catholick Faith, whole of body, and of good and perfect remembrance, doe make and ordain my last Will and Testament, etc. First, I bequeath my soul to God Almighty the Father of Heaven, my Creator, and unto Jesus Christ our Lord and God, my Redeemer. And I will my body be buried in the Chancel within the Parish Church of *Hemelhemsted*, near to the place where my mother lieth. I bequeath to the Parish Church of *Quainton* my vestment of crimson sattin. I bequeath to the Parish Church of *Great Barkhemsted* my vestment of crimson velvet. I bequeath to the Parish Church of *Hemelhemsted* my stole and "fanon set with pearl. I bequeath to my Cozen John Waterhouse, the Queen's servant, my standing cup of silver and gilt, with the cover. I bequeath to my servant Thomas Ashton, ten pound in money, which I promised him. I bequeath to my Priest, Sir Thomas Barker, my black gown faced with taffata, &c. And I ordain and make my brother John Waterhouse, and my cozen Richard Combe, gentleman, mine executors: These being witnesses, etc."

Soon after the dissolution of the College, Waterhouse, together with one Combe<sup>o</sup>, (perhaps his cousin aforementioned,) rented the impropriation of Hemsted, and lived there in the Bury; paying rent to the Office of Augmentation £42. 3. 0.

Some observing person, perhaps a Brother of the College<sup>p</sup>, (into whose hands the book had fallen, or to whom it had been entrusted,) contemporary with Waterhouse, has entered in the Register, towards the close of it, two or three events preceding and subsequent to the time of the dissolution. After briefly noticing the decapitation of Queen Anne Bullen, he next records the extinction of his noble house, and the expulsion of its owners. "*Hoc anno nobilis domus de Asscherugge destructa fuit, et fratres expulsi, in die Sancti Leonardi.*" Then immediately follows, written with no small indignation, "*Hoc anno decapitatus fuit ille eximius hereticus et proditor Thomas Crumwell, qui causa fuit destruccioni omnium domorum religiosorum in Anglia.*"

<sup>m</sup> Fuller thus zealously defends him from the possible charge of ostentation, in the disposal of his vestments: "Such as jeer him for his *gallantry* [finery] (as one of the *Church Triumphant*) may remember that besides his worshipful extraction (which might the better countenance his clothes) these were not *garments* for his *wearing*, but *vestments* for his officiating; and, according to the opinion of that age, nothing could be too costly in that kind." Worthies, p. 31. Probatum fuit hoc

Testamentum coram Will. Cooke, Leg. Doct. in Cur. Prerog. 17. Jul. 1557. Fuller, p. 30.

<sup>n</sup> A kind of scarf thrown over the arm.

<sup>o</sup> Newcome, Hist. of St. Alban's.

<sup>p</sup> He records the death of Waterhouse's predecessor, and the election of Waterhouse to succeed him. "*Obiit dominus Johannes Malden, rector, 12. die Julii anno Domini millesimo quingentesimo xxix.<sup>o</sup> et electus est dominus Thomas Waterhouse in crastino sancte M. Magdalene.*"



## SECT. IV.

THE DISSOLUTION OF THE COLLEGE. THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF IT, TILL THE LANDS AND MANORS WHICH BELONGED TO IT BECAME THE PROPERTY OF THOMAS, LORD ELLESMERE, THE FOUNDER OF THE NOBLE HOUSE OF BRIDGEWATER, OF THE NAME OF EGERTON.

THE Rector and Brethren held this College till the twenty-sixth year of Henry the eighth, when they were visited by the Commissioners of his Majesty, and made their recognition of the Royal Supremacy. At the same time, which was prior to the first Act of the Dissolution of Monasteries, (which passed in the twenty-seventh,) a rental was made of their estates; the gross amount of which corresponds with the return given by Speed in his account of the valuations of Religious Houses, viz. £447. 18. 0. But Dugdale, in his description of these valuations, states the return of the value of Ashridge at £416. 16. 4. And we find a sum, amounting precisely to that, apportioned in salaries to the Rector and Brethren, and other outgoings.

To Thos. Waterhouse, the Rector, per ann. ....	110	6	8
To 17 Brethren at £8 per ann. each ..	136	0	0
To the clear Outgoings of the Temporal and Spiritual Possessions of the College.....	150	9	8
	£416 16 4		

The College paid yearly tenths to the Crown, viz. £41. 13. 4. I will now subjoin the rental, of which mention has been made.

“ ‘Rentale sive Valor Collegii de Ashridge capt. 26. Henr. 8. 1534, quinque annos ante dissolutionem.

“ ‘Domus sive Collegium Bonorum Virorum de Ashridge in Com. Bucks, ubi Thomas Waterhouse est Rector et Incumbens.

## “ Galet in Temporalibus.

“ In Com. Hertford.

“ In Hemelhempsted in terris et firmis .....	173	10	3
“ In Bovington in terris et firmis .....	69	9	3
“ In Gaddsdon parva Assis. liberorum et customar. Tenentium .....	7	7	10
“ In Frythesden .....	6	13	10
“ In Barkhamsted redditus tenementorum & burg. ....	1	0	0
“ In Aldeburgh feod. firm. ....	2	13	4

“ Total Temporal. in Co. Hertford ..... £224 14 6

“ In Co. Oxon.

“ In Cestreton in redditibus et firmis .....	27	13	2½
“ In Ambrosden in reddit. et firmis .....	31	5	10

“ Total Temporal in Co. Oxon ..... £58 19 0½

¶ Chauncy has printed this recognition. Hist. of Hertf. p. 551. The persons, subscribing the instrument, are, Thomas Waterhouse, Rector; Thomas Hyll, Elias Bernard, Michael Draper, Johannes Hatfelde, Robert'. Hitchinham, Richard Gardiner, Willielmus Knighton, Richardus Bedford, Roger'. Byrchley, Willielm'. Downham, Richardus Lawnders, Johan'. Axstyl, Willielmus Brook, Joseph Stepneth, Richardus Canaan, Willielm'. Young.

¶ Browne Willis's MS. Rot. in Off. Primitiarum et Decimarum in Med. Temp. Lond.

\* There is apparently a mistake in this statement, viz. of three shillings too much; the sum of £41. 13. 4. stated as paid yearly for tenths, being the real tenth of £416. 13. 4. though Dugdale and others give £416. 16. 4. as the rental; but the Liber Regis and other documents £41. 13. 4. as the tenths. Of the sums allowed to the Brethren there are some differing statements. See the note\*, p. 27.

† Ex Rot. Archidiac. Bucks in Off. Prim. et Dec. ut suprâ. Valor Eccles. Hen. VIII.



COLLEGE OF ASHRIDGE.

27

" In Co. Bucks.

" In Pitheleston in reddit. Assiss. ....	16	2	6
" In Terris Dominicalibus prope Domum de Ashridge in manibus incumbendis remanent'. valent in diversis acris terræ in quinque seperalibus clausuris viz. in Parkfeld, 32 acres, Koning Arc feld, 30 acres, Durmer feld, 31 acres, Loose feld, 10 acres, and Totehill, 11 acres. In toto, 114 acres, which, at the rate of sixpence for every acre, being in all 114 acres, amount to 57 shillings .....	2	17	0
" Valet etiam in venditionibus boscorum communibus annis .....	13	6	8
" In Perquisitis Curiarum cum Finibus Heriotarum infra maneria .....	2	0	0
" In Finibus et Dimissionibus maneriorum .....	2	0	0
" Summ total of the value of the Temporalitys .....	£320	4	8

" Valet in Spiritualibus.

" In Co. Hertford.

" Rectoria de Hemel Hemsted .....	42	3	0
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In Co. Oxon.

" Rectoria de Blackthorne i. e. Ambrosden .....	30	1	8
" Rectoria de Cestreton .....	8	0	0

" In Co. Bucks.

" Rectoria de Pitheleston .....	15	18	6
" Rectoria de Ivinghoe .....	33	10	10
" In finibus et dimissionibus Rectoriarum .....	1	6	8
" In propriis decimis .....	0	13	8
" Summa totalis Spiritualium .....	£127	13	4

Other accounts make a trifling variation in the <sup>v</sup> sum total, and also state that Waterhouse's pension<sup>z</sup> was £100 a year with 50 loads of wood, as well as a <sup>a</sup> difference in the pensions assigned to the Brethren, and in the <sup>b</sup> number of these Brethren at the time of their dissolution.

The Rector and Brethren had also formerly the custody of St. Thomas of Acon in London. For there is a revocation of this guardianship, in the time of king Edward the second, noticed by <sup>c</sup> Tanner, viz. "Revocatio custodiæ hujus <sup>d</sup> Hospitalis concessæ Fratribus de Asheridge, quia per falsam suggestionem." They had also, in Edward the first's reign<sup>e</sup>, acquired the patronage of the Church of Hemelhemsted, and of its Chapels, not from the Prior of St. Bartholomew in Smithfield, as Mr. Newcome has asserted, but <sup>f</sup> by donation from their founder the Earl of Cornwall. The College had likewise formerly the impropriation of <sup>g</sup> North Bradley, County of Wilts; which now belongs to Winchester College. Besides property in Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and Oxfordshire, recorded in the preceding official returns; and in Wiltshire, as just noticed; they appear to have also possessed in <sup>h</sup> Essex and

<sup>a</sup> This sum total, stated by Willis, is not correct. Taking the temp. in Hert. Ox. & Bucks together, the amount is £319. 19. 8½.

<sup>z</sup> The whole amount of the Spirituals is, correctly, £131. 14. 4.

<sup>v</sup> Newcome, from a book in the Augmentation Office, represents the amount of the Temporalis at £322. 17. 0. And, the Spirituals being united, of the gross receipts at £435. 14. 10, from which he deducts reprisals £31. 1. 8, leaving the total valuation at £404. 13. 2.

<sup>z</sup> Newcome, ut supra.

<sup>a</sup> Newcome, who, from the book in the Augmentation Office, specifies the sums paid to fifteen Brethren; of which two are £10, two £8, two £7, two £6. 13. 4, four of £6, two £5. 6. 8, and the fifteenth £2. 13. 4. to Edward Peacock, Novyce.

<sup>b</sup> Browne Willis, we see, has mentioned seventeen, to whom pensions were assigned. Newcome records fifteen. The Topographer specifies the Rector and sixteen Brethren, at the time of the dissolution. Topogr. vol. 2. p. 134.

<sup>c</sup> Not. Monast. p. 312. col. 2.

<sup>d</sup> See also Chauncy, Hist. of Hertf. p. 575. col. 2. concerning the Master of this Hospital.

<sup>e</sup> Tower Records. Newcome ut supra.

<sup>f</sup> See before, p. 8, note p. Rot. Pat. 18. Ed. I.

<sup>g</sup> Bacon, Liber Regis.

<sup>h</sup> See Rec. Excheq. MSS. in V. Ashridge. "Clameum Rectoris firmæ in Com. Essexiæ, allocatum in magno rotulo Pipæ. 6. Rich. II.—Item Recordæ tangent' Asherugge 8. Hen. VI. rot. 22. in Com. Berksciræ, 200 acr. bosci; et rot. 32. in Com. Wiltesc."



Berks some rights and privileges; of which I have been unable to find the exchange or surrender.

After the dissolution, Ashridge unquestionably became the residence of royalty. To whatever tenant it might have been assigned, during the remainder of Henry's days; we shall find that it was bestowed on the princess Elizabeth by her brother king Edward, and we know that in Mary's reign, it was occupied by that princess. Among the Harleian Manuscripts in the British Museum, there is a Latin letter from her to Edward, dated *Ashridge*, the 20th of September, but without the date of the year, in which she speaks of the sickness then prevalent, and of the king's being absent from London. This seems to fix the residence of Elizabeth at Ashridge as early as in 1551, when the sweating sickness so raged, that in London 800 died of it in one week. There is also among the Lansdowne Manuscripts, in the same national repository, a letter from her, dated at the same place, of no interest, to *her wel beloved sister*, the princess Mary. We now proceed to the reign of Mary; when, as an elegant writer has observed, "Elizabeth, being become the public and avowed object of Mary's aversion, was openly treated with much disrespect and insult. She was forbidden to take place, in the presence chamber, of the Countess of Lenox and the Dutchess of Suffolk, as if her legitimacy had been dubious. This doctrine had been insinuated by the chancellor Gardiner, in a speech before both houses of parliament. Among other arguments enforcing the necessity of Mary's marriage, he particularly insisted on the failure of the royal lineage; artfully remarking, that none of Henry's descendants remained, except the queen, and the *princess* Elizabeth, avoiding the term *sister*. Her friends were neglected or affronted. And while her amiable qualifications every day drew the attention of the young nobility, and rendered her universally popular, the malevolence of the vindictive queen still encreased. The princess therefore thought it most prudent to leave the Court; and before the beginning of 1554, retired to her house at Ashridge in Hertfordshire. In the mean time, Sir Thomas Wyatt's rebellion broke out, in opposition to the queen's match with Philip of Spain. It was immediately pretended, that the princess Elizabeth, together with lord Courtney, was privately concerned in this dangerous conspiracy, and that she had held a correspondence with the traitor Wyatt. Accordingly, Sir Edward Hastings, afterwards lord Loughborough, Sir Thomas Cornwallis, and Sir Richard Southwell, attended by a troop of Horse, were ordered to bring her to court. They found the princess sick, and even confined to her bed, at Ashridge. Notwithstanding, under pretence of the strictness of their commission, they compelled her to rise. And, still continuing very weak and indisposed, she proceeded in the queen's litter by slow journeys to London."—

There is enough, in the preceding abstract of Elizabeth's situation, to stop the antiquary in his most eager researches, and bid him ponder upon the unstable condition of human greatness, thus exemplified in a princess so undeservedly exposed to injury and insult. This instance, indeed, is one of the spectacles in real life, which both humbles our unthinking pride, and calls forth our sincerest commiseration.

Topography may be always allowed to explore those remarkable circumstances in the histories of persons, which are connected with the place described; and to make them more obvious in description, than the often necessarily compressed page of general history exhibits. Ashridge derives great interest from its connection with the early part of Elizabeth's days; and therefore for what follows, however well known to inquisitive curiosity, no apology is necessary.

Of the scenes, which now present themselves to notice, the first in order, and in interest, is the retirement of the princess to Ashridge, where we find her suspected of treason. But we know the malevolence of the queen to have been personal as well as political. Mary, before she came to the throne, treated her, upon all occasions, with the tenderness of a sister; "going no whither but would have her by the hand, and sending for her to dinner and

<sup>1</sup> N<sup>o</sup>. 6986. 15.

<sup>2</sup> Burnet, Hist. of the Ref. P. II. B. 1.

<sup>3</sup> N<sup>o</sup>. 1236. 39.

<sup>4</sup> Warton's Hist. of Sir Tho. Pope, pp. 65, 66.

<sup>5</sup> Wherein our most worthie and ever famous queen Elizabeth lodged, as in her owne, beinge then a most stately house, at

the time of Wyatt's attempte in queen Maryes dayes." Norden's Hertfordshire, 1596.

<sup>6</sup> Burnet, Hist. of the Ref. Vol. ii. p. 254.

<sup>7</sup> Fox, Acts and Monuments, B. ii. Elizabeth, when queen, ordered Fox's book to be placed in the common halls of archbishops, bishops, deans, archdeacons, and heads of colleges.



supper; but, after she was crowned, never shewing her any such kindness, but keeping herself aloof from hers." Of this altered mood the Lord Courtney has been supposed one of the powerful causes. With the Queen<sup>a</sup> he was much in favour; and it was believed that she wished to marry him. But he affected not so high an honour, or rather he beheld her not with eyes of rapture. To Elizabeth he had made addresses, who of the ordinary share of beauty between them had much the better part, and was nineteen years younger. *The fury of a woman scorn'd*, we may therefore safely believe, was not wholly unconcerned in the neglect, and subsequent imprisonment, of a sister, together with her suitor. They were victims to pride and jealousy. For Wyatt, at his death, entirely cleared them both from the unfounded charge against them. Nor was the charge revived; although indeed they were both committed to the Tower.

From this rude visit, then, to the Princess at Ashridge, where we look in vain, upon the occasion, for a spark of that enthusiastic zeal of courtesy, which was common in those days; we shall now attend her till that event; not without previously observing, that we are unacquainted with the exact time of her abandoning the hope of marriage with Lord Courtney; and that some appear to have supposed them married. For a relation<sup>b</sup> exists, entitled, "How one Cleber, 1556, proclaimed the Ladie Elizabeth Quene, and her beloved bedfellow Lorde Edward Courtneye Kynge!"

The Princess has not recorded her sorrow at their separation; as at a very distant period she did upon the loss of another suitor, the Duke of Anjou, in 1581. And if we may judge from her impassioned strains, when she was fifty-two years old; how would she have written, when Courtney urged his suit, at the age of twenty-five! Let the reader form his opinion from the curious<sup>c</sup> declaration which has come down to us.

## I.

"I grieve, yet dare not shew my discontent;  
I love, and yet am forc'd to seem to hate;  
I dote, but dare not say I never meant;  
I seem stark mute, but inwardly to prate.  
I am, and not; I freeze, and yet am burn'd,  
Since from myself my other self I turn'd.

## II.

"My care is like the shadow in the sun,  
Following me flying; flies when I pursue it;  
Stands and lies by me; does what I have done;  
This too familiar care doth make me rue it.  
No means I find to rid him from my breast,  
Till by the end of things it be suppress.

## III.

"Some gentler passions steal into my mind,  
(For I am soft, and made of melting snow;)  
Or be more cruel, love, or be more kind,  
Let me or float or sink, be high or low.  
Or let me live with some more sweet content,  
Or die, and so forget what love e'er meant!"

<sup>a</sup> Burnet, and our historians in general.

<sup>b</sup> She has been described as "having a skin of pure white, and hair of a yellow colour; her eyes beautiful and lively, and her whole body well made." See Bohun's Charact. of Q. Eliz. He omits her *high* nose, which indeed several of the portraits of her Majesty improperly do.

<sup>c</sup> In the Brit. Mus. M.S. Harl. 537. 25. See Warton's Life of Sir T. Pope, p. 91.

<sup>d</sup> In the Ashmole Mus. Ox. 6969. (781.) The lines are signed *Eliza Regina upon Mountzeur's departure*. See Andrews's Contin. of Dr. Henry's Hist. of Gr. Brit. Headley's, and Ellis's, Specim. of Anc. Eng. Poetry.



From this little digression, occasioned by her story, we return to the suspected Princess at Ashridge, and to the commissioners sent thither to seize her. Their retinue and troop of horsemen, it seems, consisted of <sup>a</sup> 250 persons. Of these commissioners the behaviour appears to have exhibited the insolence of office unchastised by the decent attentions of civilized life. It was past the hour of ten at night, when they arrived. So boisterous were they in their demand, that being requested to stay, and come again in the morning to speak to the Princess, they instantly rushed into the chamber, when her gentlewoman left it with the request. They then, abruptly declared the pleasure of the Queen; which was, that she should be at London upon the seventh day of that present month; unfeelingly adding, that in obedience to their commission they would take her with them, *either alive or dead*.

Having, however, found her on their arrival sick; they could not but ask her physicians, Dr. Owen and Dr. Wendie, whether she might be removed without danger of her life. These physicians probably dared to make no other answer than they did; *that she might*. The commissioners accordingly bade her prepare against the morning, at nine of the clock, for the melancholy journey.

At the prescribed time, they conducted her, faint and feeble as she was, to the Queen's litter; so weak at the instant, as to be <sup>x</sup> ready to swoon three or four times betwixt them." Her progress, on that day, was no further than to *Redborne*, where she was guarded all night. On the next, to the house of Sir Ralph Rowlet at *St. Alban's*, where she tarried that night, <sup>y</sup> both feeble in body, and comfortless in mind." From that place she passed to the house of Mr. Dodd at *Mims*, where she remained that night. And thence she came to *Highgate*; where, <sup>z</sup> being very sick," she tarried that night, and the next day. From that place she was conveyed to the Court.

Upon her arrival at the Court, she was immediately confined, and kept a close prisoner for the space of a fortnight; unvisited by King, or Queen, or any friend; and not until the twelfth day of this confinement examined by the Privy Council, who then indeed unjustly charged her with the conspiracy of Wyatt and other treasonable matters, and she vindicated her innocence beyond dispute. Yet the Lords of the Council still declared it to be the pleasure of her Majesty, that she should be sent to the Tower, till the matter might be further examined.

After this determination, the Princess had scarcely returned to her prison in the Court more than an hour, when four of the Council, with a guard, took possession of the room next to that which she occupied; secluding all her gentlemen, yeomen, ladies, and gentlewomen. They appointed, in their room, one gentleman-usher, three gentlewomen, and two grooms of the chamber. Besides these, three other men of the Queen's household, and three waiting women, were selected, to see that none should have access to the captive. So jealous were they of Elizabeth's popularity. They even kept waiting in the gardens, all that night, *a hundred northern soldiers*, as if they suspected in this business the allegiance of the ordinary guard; and rendered their suspicion more notorious, by appointing two noblemen also with their attendants to the same watch.

After a few days, two of the Lords of the Council came to inform her, that she must immediately be carried to the Tower. And the barge being prepared for her, and the tide serving, she is said to have requested, in heavy mood, the favour of waiting another tide; which was refused by the Lords with the churlish answer, <sup>a</sup> *that neither tide nor time was to be delayed.*" Yet importuning to write to the Queen, one of them so far was softened as to promise the delivery of her letter, and bring back her Majesty's answer; a circumstance, however, which delayed her commitment only to the following morning; when she was conveyed to the Tower by water, and landing, having one foot upon the stairs, she said, <sup>b</sup> *Here landeth as true a subject, being prisoner, as ever landed at these stairs; and before Thee, O God, I speak it, having none other friends but Thee alone.*" She was then led into

<sup>a</sup> Fox, Acts and Mon. B. 2. His authority is here minutely followed, his language only being a little altered, till the Princess is landed at the Tower of London.

<sup>x</sup> Fox.

<sup>y</sup> Ibid.

<sup>z</sup> Ibid.

<sup>a</sup> Ibid.

<sup>b</sup> Ibid.









KING EDWARD VI.

Drawn on Stone by RICHARD LANE. from the Original Drawing by HENRY CORBOULD  
Printed by C. Hullmandel.



her room, and the doors were bolted upon her; when she called to her gentlewoman for her book, desiring God "*not to suffer her to build her foundation upon the sands, but upon the rock, whereby all blasts and blustering weather should have no power against her.*"

Here is a fine proof of the unbroken spirit of Elizabeth. It was accompanied with her resentment of the studied insolence of one of the noblemen, who would make her land at Traitors-Gate, yet offered her his cloak to protect her from the rain; when she cast the cloak from her "with a good dash!"

We have now brought her, as we proposed, from Ashridge to the Tower of London; and have no need to dwell upon the often told tales of all her subsequent hardships, and of herself and Courtney being at length indebted to Philip, not long after his nuptials with Mary, for their liberation. Yet is there one circumstance, attending her first examination in the Tower, which cannot here be overpassed, as it both relates to the history of Ashridge, and is another illustration of her lofty mind.

Gardiner, and others of the Council, it seems, at this interview, examined her "*of the talk that was at Ashridge betwixt her and Sir James Crofts, concerning her removing thence to Dunnington Castle.*" To whom she said, she remembered that M. Hoby, and her officers, and Sir James Crofts, used such words: "*But what is that to the purpose, my Lord,* said she, *but that I may go to mine own houses at all times!*"

We now revert to the fact of the house and demesnes of Ashridge having been granted to Elizabeth by her brother, Edward the Sixth, in the fifth year of his reign; as appears by the following document:

"*Rex omnibus ad quos etc. Salutem. Sciatis quod Nos, de gracia nostra speciali ac ex certa sciencia et mero motu nostris, dedimus et concessimus, ac per presentes damus et concedimus, percharissime Sorori nostre domine Elizabethæ, (inter alia,) omnes illos redditus nostros tam liberorum quam custumariorum tenentium in Gaddesden Parva et Frythesden attingen' ad summam sex librarum decem solidorum decem denariorum et unius oboli in Com'. nostro Bucks, nuper parcell'. terrarum et possessionum nuper Collegii de Assheridge in dicta Com'. nostro Bucks: Ac totum illud messuagium sive capitalem mansionem nostram de Assheridge: Ac omnia domos edificia curtilagia ortos pomaria gardina ac cetera hereditamenta nostra infra scitum, ambitum, circuitum, et precinctum ejusdem mansionis existen'. dicto nuper Collegio de Assheridge dudum spectan'. et pertinen'. Ac eciam totum illud tenementum nostrum vocatum le Dary house, ac omnes illas terras nostras vocat. Hodenhall alias Hundenhall parke, jacen'. et existen'. in Edelborough in dicto Com'. nostro Bucks, modo vel nuper in tenura seu occupacione Roberti Eme vel assign'. suorum nuper parcell'. terrarum et possessionum dicti nuper Collegii de Assheridge existen'. etc. Dat. Westminster 24 April, 5. Edw. 6."*

Browne Willis says, that Edward had been nursed<sup>e</sup> here. We hear, however, no more of the Princess at Ashridge, after the events mentioned. But an existing document shews that she had assigned, in 1556, many parcels of the lands and demesnes, belonging to the late College, to Richard<sup>f</sup> Combe or Combes, of Hemelhemsted, gentleman. This grant, now among the many important and very curious articles in the archives of the present Earl of Bridgewater, is as follows.

"*This Indenture made the 28<sup>th</sup> day of Marche, in the thirde and fourthe yeres of the reignes of our sovereigne Lorde and Ladie Phillip and Mary, &c. betweene the right excellent Princesse the Ladie Elizabeth's Grace, suster to our said sovereigne Ladie the Quene's Majestie of th'on partie, and Richard Combe of Hemelhamsted, in the Countie of Herts, gent. of the other partie. Witnessithe that the said excellent Princess hath graunted, demised, betaken, and to ferme letten, unto the said Richard Combe, One pasture calid Ayshe*

<sup>e</sup> Fox.

<sup>f</sup> Office Copy of the Grant in the present Earl of Bridgewater's archives.

<sup>g</sup> The western avenue is still called, *The Prince's Riding*; and perhaps took the name from Edward.

<sup>h</sup> Between R. Combe or Combes, who is styled, not very cor-

rectly, "*Rector of the Parish of Ashridge,*" and R. Warde, Esq. "*Impropriator and Rector of Pychelestorne,* and of the free Chapel of *Nettleden* thereto annexed," there appears to have been a suite about tithes, upon which a decision was pronounced by Dr. B. Clerke, Official of the Arches Court of Canterbury, in Feb. 1554. Bridgewater MSS.



*parke*, One close of lande and pasture calid *Hodendale parke*, One meadowe lyinge behind the dairie howse, and also One other meadowe lyinge before the dairie howse aforesaid, One other meadowe callid *the Launde* lyinge behinde the stable, and those feildes of land called *Tuthill ffeildes* lyinge together, One ffeilde of arable land called *Parke ffeilde*, One close of arable land called *Conygar ffeilde*, One ffeilde of arable lande called *Turnors ffeilde*, One close of arable lande calid *Fyve Acres*, and One feilde of arable land calid *Lose ffeilde*, and also the herbage and pannage of the woodes called the *North woode*, the *Bushie parke*, the *South woode*, *Hamond hill*, *Stepmother woode*, *Thorney grene*, and *Hard hill*. All which premisses with th' appurtenances are lyinge and beinge in *Ashrudge* in the Countie of *Bucks*. And also all other the demayne landes whatsoever they be belonging to *the late Monasterie of Ashrudge*, &c. or of late in th' occupieng of John Norris and Olyver Lowthe late ffarmers ther with comen of pasture in the ffrith and else where, &c. And also the oversight and custodie of the said Colledge or Monasterie of *Ashrudge* with all the houses, barnes, stables, the dovehowse, orchards, and gardens, lyinge and beinge within the precincte of the said late Monasterie, &c. To have, hold, occupie, &c. from the feast of St. Michael last past unto the ende and terme of one and twentie yeres next ensuing. Yeldinge and paying therefore yerelie, duringe the sayd terme, unto the said Excellent Princesse, her Graces successors and assignees, Sixe poundes and ten pence of lawfull money of Inglande, at two termes in the yere, by even porcions, &c."

Elizabeth, as Queen, granted Ashridge to William Gorge, one of her gentlemen pensioners. There is the copy of a draft of such a grant, dated 10. January, in the fourteenth year of her reign, among the Earl of Bridgewater's records. Afterwards she granted the Manor of Ashridge, dated Jan. 29. in the seventeenth year of her reign, to John Dudley, and John Ayscough, and their heirs. These persons, on Feb. 12. following, granted it to Henry Lord Cheyney and Jane Lady Cheyney his wife, and to the heirs of the Lord Cheyney. There had been, before this transaction, a survey taken of *Ashrudge* and *Sherland* aforesaid, with a view to exchange; of which the following notice is preserved among the <sup>h</sup> Memoranda of the Exchequer. "De £79. 11. 0. parcellâ £1260. 8. 8. de Valore Domûs de *Assheridge*, ac boscorum et arborum, super diversa Maneria infrâ scripta, in Com. Buck. et aliis, per Reginam Henrico, domino Cheyney, in Excambio assuratâ excedentem Valorem Domûs de *Sherland*, in Comitatu Kancie, ac boscorum super diversa alia, per eundem dominum Cheyney, Reginae in Excambio concessorum, eidem Reginae respondendâ:" which Henry Lord Cheyney did, by his Indenture, grant the Manor of Ashridge to Sir Robert Newdigate and others for the use of Jane Lady Cheyney and the heirs of her body; and, in default of such issue, to the use of the lady and her heirs. The Lord Cheyney died without issue of his body, and so the Manor came to the Lady Cheyney and her heirs. The survey as well of *Sherland* as of *Ashrudge*, exists among the Bridgewater manuscripts, but somewhat mutilated. So much of *Ashrudge*, as more immediately respects the purpose of these pages, is entire, and as follows.

"By vertue of the Quene's Majesties Comysion out of her Highnes Courte of Exchequer hereunto annexed, to us directed, we *John Thomson*, *William Hawtrie*, *Peter Graye*, Esquiers, etc. having called unto us divers and sundrie workemen of good skill and experience, have viewed, seen, and surveyed all the mansion house of *Ayssheridge*, etc. with all and singuler edifices, barnes, stables, dovehouses, and other buyldings aboute the same; and have according to the same Comysion valued all and singuler the brick, stone, iron, leade, glasse, tymber, and tyle thereof, in suche sorte as if all the severall things shuld presently be pulled asunder, taken downe, and then solde; and have also viewed and seene all the wooddes growing in and upon the demesnes of the house. And so we finde the same mansion house, with other the premisses, worthe to be solde, as hereafter ensueth.

<sup>g</sup> Written *Cheyne*, in the old writings.

<sup>h</sup> Jones's Index to Records, etc. fol. 1795. vol. 2. sub voce *Ashrudge*.



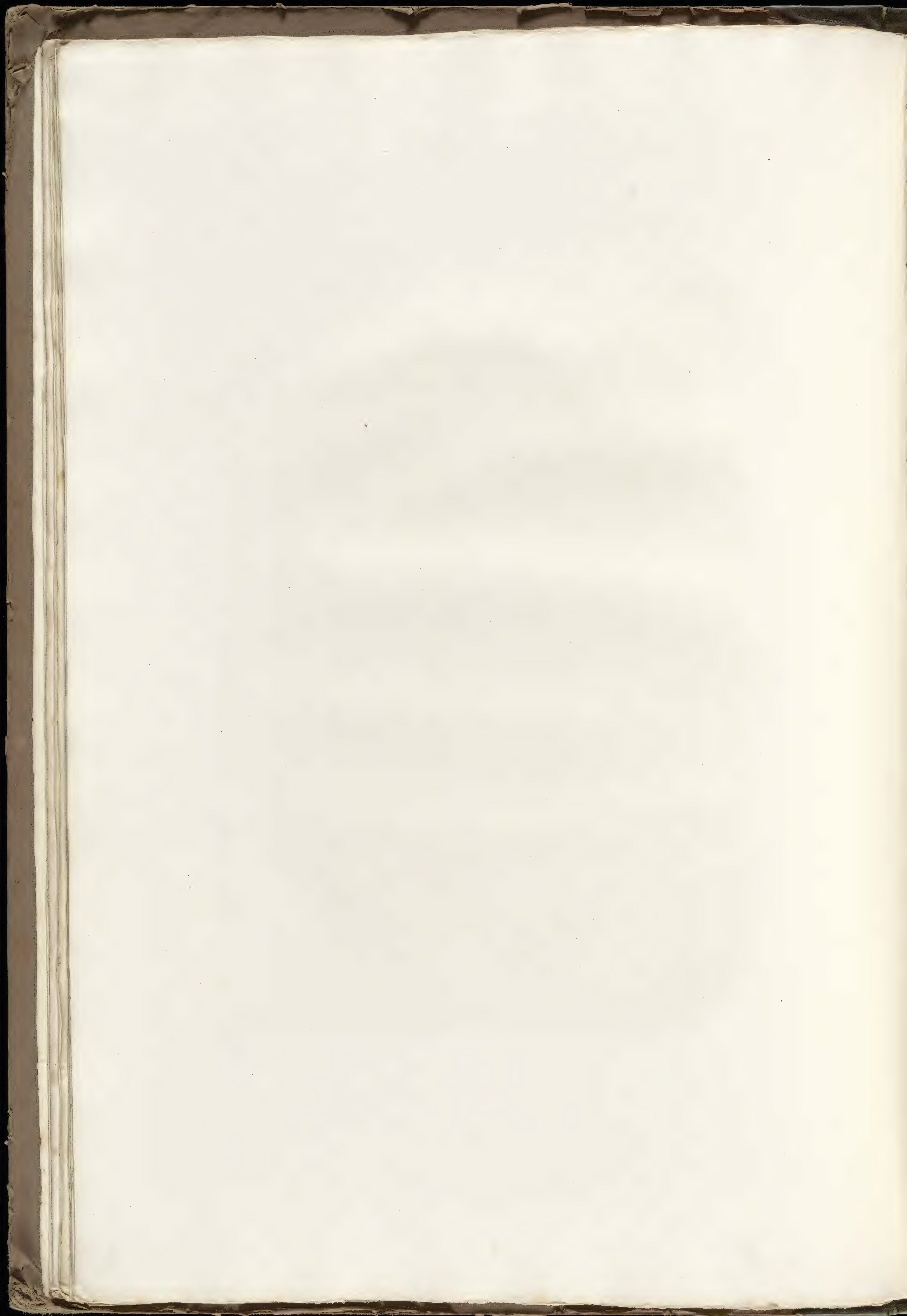


R. WESTMACOTT R.A. SCULPTOR.

QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Drawn on Stone by RICHARD LANE from the Original Drawing by HENRY CORBULD.  
Printed by C. Hullmandel.







<p>" In brick x<sup>li</sup>. xv<sup>s</sup>, stone liij<sup>li</sup>. xv<sup>s</sup>. viij<sup>d</sup>, iron xxix<sup>li</sup>. x<sup>s</sup>. iij<sup>d</sup>, glasse xij<sup>li</sup>. viij<sup>d</sup>, timbre ccxij<sup>li</sup>. xiiij<sup>s</sup>. iij<sup>d</sup>, wainscot xxx<sup>li</sup>. xij<sup>s</sup>. iij<sup>d</sup>, paving tyle vij<sup>li</sup>. xxij<sup>d</sup>, tyle l<sup>li</sup>. xx<sup>d</sup>. In the whole .....</p>	<p>ccccij. xij. viij.</p>	
<p>" In leade xxvij. xxvj. foote, whiche after the rate of xvij. foote to a fodder amounteth to lxxxix. fodder three quarters dim<sup>s</sup>. and xxv. foote, and valued at vij<sup>li</sup>. xij<sup>s</sup>. iij<sup>d</sup>. the fodder, cometh to .....</p>	<p>clxij. ij. iij.</p>	<p>mcxiiij. xvij.</p>
<p>" Tymbre and other trees growing in and upon divers and sundrie places of the de- measnes there, viz. <i>Sowthwood</i> mmdcclxxxv, <i>Northwood</i> mdcccclxxxvi, <i>Asshe park</i> ccxxxvij, <i>Hardhill</i> lxxxij, <i>Stepmother wood</i> cccxlviij, <i>Hamond's hill</i> mclclxxxvj, <i>Turner's</i> <i>close</i> ccxxxij, and <i>Busshe park</i> ccxcv; in th hole ix thousand dli trees; which valued at xiiij<sup>d</sup>. the tree, one with another, amounteth to .....</p>	<p>dlviij. ij. x.</p>	<p>dlxxv. ij. x.</p>
<p>" <i>Bushie park</i> xxvij acres of underwood, valued at xij<sup>s</sup>. iij<sup>d</sup>. the acre .....</p>	<p>xvij</p>	
<p>" Summa Totalis mdclxxxix. xix. x."</p>		

In the thirty second year of her reign, queen Elizabeth <sup>i</sup> granted, by letters patent dated July 12, the Manors of Gaddesden Parva and Frithsden, with the appurtenances, to Jane Lady Cheyney and her heirs.

The Lady Cheyney, Sir John Crofts, and Dame Mary his wife, <sup>k</sup> bargained and sold, by indenture dated 27. Nov. 44 Eliz. these Manors of Ashridge, Gaddesden Parva, and Frithsden, to Ralph Marshal and his heirs. Ralph Marshal conveyed them, by indenture inrolled dated 7. March, 45. Eliz. to Randolph Crew, Thomas Chamberlain, and their heirs; and, in Easter Term 1 Jam. levied a fine of them to the use of the parties; and in the same term the Lady Cheyney, Sir John Crofts, and Dame Mary his wife, levied another fine of the Manors of Ivinghoe, Ashridge, Gaddesden Parva, Frithsden, and Northwood, to the use of the same parties and their heirs.

Randolph Crew, Thomas Chamberlain, and Richard Cartwright, <sup>l</sup> granted, by their indenture, dated 21. Oct. 2 James the first, the Manors of Ashridge, Gaddesden Parva, and Frithsden, to Sir THOMAS EGERTON LORD ELLESMERE, and the heirs male of his body; and, for want of such heirs male, to the use of the right heirs of the said Lord Ellesmere for ever.

What had passed from the College, returned also to Lord Ellesmere. For the Manor of Lucies, which belonged to Sir Geoffrey Lucy, and was conveyed to Edmund Earl of Cornwall and by him given to the College of Ashridge, passed after the dissolution to Henry Earl of Essex; and afterwards to Sir Robert Dormer, who in 44. Eliz. conveyed it to John <sup>m</sup> Eames and Robert James, and they sold it to <sup>n</sup> Lord Ellesmere.

<sup>l</sup> Chauncy, Hist. of Hertf. p. 552. col. 1.

<sup>k</sup> Ibid.

<sup>m</sup> Among the Bridgewater MSS. there is a copy of a Lease out of the augmentation office, granted by Queen Elizabeth to this John Eames, of *Gaddesden Howe*, part of the possessions of the College of Ashridge, dat. 21 June, in the 12th

year of her reign; which had been let by the Rector and Brethren, 29 Hen. VIII. for the term of 40 years. The land 14 acres with a tenement.

<sup>n</sup> Chauncy Hist. of Hertf. p. 552. col. 2. And Bridgewater MSS.



The Manor of Great Gaddesden was granted to Thomas Lord Stanley, 1. Hen. VII. The coheirs of Ferdinando, Earl of Derby, sold it to Sir Robert Cecil, who granted it to Adolph Carey of Berkhamsted esq<sup>r</sup> from whom it passed to Sir Philip and Sir Henry his brothers, who sold it to ° Lord Ellesmere.

Of this illustrious person, the founder of the House of Bridgewater, the fame, the talents, and the virtue are too well known to require much notice here. In the *Biographia Britannica* (not to mention many smaller works in which his history occurs) the most curious and elaborate life of him may be found. And his memory, as a descendant has well observed, yet lives, not only in the Records of the Court of Chancery, but in the Annals of our General History.

He was son of Sir Richard Egerton, of Ridley, in Cheshire, by Alice, daughter of Richard Sparke, of Bickerton. This Sir Richard was son and heir of Sir Ralph, younger brother of John the ancestor to Sir Thomas Egerton, late Earl of Wilton. Sir Ralph was escheator of Cheshire, and ranger of Delamere forest for life<sup>p</sup>. He married Margaret, daughter and heir of Ralph Basset, of Blore, Co. Stafford, who was the second son of William Basset, of Blore, son and heir of William, of Blore, by Joan, daughter and coheir of Richard Byron. This is here stated, because the Basset arms are generally seen quartered with those of Egerton, as the windows of ancient Ashridge once abundantly testified, and the hall-window of the present mansion still exhibits. Sir Thomas was entered a Student of Brasen-Nose College, Oxford, about 1556, in his 17<sup>th</sup> year, where he continued about three years; whence he proceeded to ° Lincoln's Inn, and soon became a distinguished Councillor. In 1581 he was appointed Solicitor General; in 1592, Attorney General; in 1593, Master of the Rolls; and in May, 1596, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal. While Lord Keeper, he took for his second wife, Alice, widow of the Earl of Derby.

On the accession of King James he was confirmed Lord Keeper, May 3, 1603; and in the July following he was raised to the peerage, by the title of Baron of Ellesmere, and constituted Lord Chancellor of England. In November 1610 he was elected Chancellor of the University of Oxford, and in November 1616 was created Viscount Brackley. He died in the following Spring, aged 77, and was buried at Doddleston in Cheshire, where he had a seat. His many important observations and collections, in manuscript, preserved among the present Marquis of Stafford's invaluable records, to whom they were bequeathed by the late Duke of Bridgewater; and several letters to and from this great man, in other literary repositories; furnish means of adding interest to the copious and valuable Life of him, already noticed; and of rendering considerable assistance to the future biographers and historians of our first James's reign.

The two following letters, one of which respects a proposal of marriage made to himself, the other a match for his son, are so interesting in their way, as to require no apology for their insertion here; and are copied from the originals, now belonging to the Marquis of Stafford.

“ Maie it please your Lordship,

“ The unchangeable favor I have found in your Lordship at all occasions, ever since the decease of my Lord Chancellor Hatton, especially in tyme of trouble and adversitie, doth make me to catch at all shew of opportunity to do your Lordship anie manner service. And though the matter of service I now offer unto your Lordship be of such tender nature and dispoztion, as happelie there need in your Lordship's grave judgement a more fyne and delicate instrument than myself; yet had I rather your Lordship should censure me as unfit, and wanting judgement, than as wanting good will or love anie waies.

“ I am latelie credeblie geven to understand, that your Lordship hath a dispoztion to be extraordinarily well thought of by a verie honorable feire yong widdow my kinswoman, and yet no more honorable and feyre than well knowne to hir Majestie, and all others, for her

° Chauncy Hist. of Hertf. p. 560, col. 1.

<sup>p</sup> See the Topographer, vol. ii. p. 136.

<sup>q</sup> “ He was of Lincolnes-Inne; and I have heard Sir John Danvers say, that he was so hard a student, that in three of

four yeares' time he was not out of the house. He had good parts, and early came into good practice.” Aubrey's Anecd. vol. ii. p. 339.





*Engraved by Edw. Scriven, Historical Engraver to His Majesty, 1652.*

THOMAS EGERTON,  
BARON OF ELLESMERE.

LORD KEEPER TO QUEEN ELIZABETH.

AND

LORD HIGH CHANCELLOR TO KING JAMES 1<sup>ST</sup>.

*Proof.*

Died March 15<sup>th</sup> 1616 17. Aged 77.

*Printed by H. L. Smith*







singular unspotted good carriage and many other good parts. I do think it my dutie to let your Lordship know, if there be anie such dispoztion or affection in your Lordship, that I am in such sort interested in those that are of especiall trust about her, that your Lordship shall not need to be beholding but to yourself and your owne worth. If the portion of inheritance amounting to about £500. per ann. may be answerable to your Lordship's expectation, I can imagin no cause of exception: and least happelie I be mistaken, or abused, (your Lordship never having knowledge of the partie, nor dispoztion or intent, this waies,) to prevent my blame, and for your Lordship's better satisfaction, I meane the old Viscount Bindon's daughter, a Chartrewse at this present, and yet no Nun, though none I dare sweare more chaste and devout. The Earle of Hereford maketh exceeding great meanes at this present, underhand, to my certain knowledge, upon large conditions, which notwithstanding shalbe utterlie rejected, if your Lordship shall think good to accept. If I err either in tyme, judgement, concept, or presumption, I humbly beseech all may be imputed to the abundance of my love and true affection, which shall never be defective where but by imagination it may stead your Lordship anie way possible. And so I most humbly take leave, from my pore house in Holborn, this 8th of April, 1600.

" At your good Lordship's commandement,

" A. ASHLEY."

Indorsed by L<sup>d</sup>. Ellesmere, Sir. An. Ashley's letter "*for a wyff*."

" Good Lord,

" I love of lyfe to receive obedience from such great folke as yourself is. Long may your Lordship live, and like to performe so still to me. I wish it from my hart. But I hartely thank your Lordship in good trewth for your so honorable an opynyon conceyved of my daughter. I thank God, she is the like thowght of, where she is; of the best judgements, and of all other. Yf when your Lordship hath sowned whether his affection be free, and whether he have sene her, and fynd eny likelyod of proceeding in his affection, then, if it please your Lordship that I may see him, I will humbly thank your Lordship; and it is all I crave yet; promising your Lordship that I had rather in my hart she should be yours, for yours, than my lord of Harfords that hovereth so abowte her, and shall goe without her. So ending with I beleve your Lordship meaneth to winne yowrself an other wife by this; your Lordship's kyndness shewed to the last; but take hede lest it be suspected, that your Lordship loved her so much, as that they will think your Lordship hath none left for an other; so may your Lordship miss of the mark that your Lordship may meane to aime at. So truly wishing your Lordship to live, and love your self, for that *Charitas incipit ex se*, I humbly take my leave,

" Your Lordship's poore frend yet a trewe frend,

" ELIZABETH RUSSELL DOUAGER."

Superscribed

To the R. Honorable

the Lord Great Seale of England. (no date)

I must add, as another great curiosity, the manly and dignified letter of this great statesman to King James, preserved, as the other letters are, at Cleveland House.

" Most gracious Sovereign,

" I leave others, that have learned to price and value their owne worthines and services, to pleade desertes. In my selfe I finde nothinge valuable but honest care and diligence, and sincere fidelitie. And in this when I have done all I can, I am but *servus inutilis*; and therefore condempne my selfe as one that meriteth nothinge. Yet when I see many (yt becomes me not to saye, of as smalle merite as my selfe, for my weakenes is not fitte to be compared with



any,) plentifully watered with the gracious streames of the royall fountayne of your bountie, I have presumed (for which I praye pardon) to offer to your princely viewe this vile scrowle inclosed. Yf you be graciously pleased to reade yt, yt will be to me exceedinge great comfort. And whatsoever your Highenes' wysdome shall judge or conceyve of yt, I am, and whylest I have beinge wyll ever be, to your Majestie one and the same, wythout change in harte or thought, that is, honest, playne, true, and faythfull; for I know, *Qui mercede erit vir bonus, mercede erit vir malus*. God blesse your Majestie in all godly felicitye, longe and longe to raigne over us. And yf my simple service be any thinge worthe, I praye God I maye have yet a while *vidam senectutem* to serve you a litle longer, as a poore labourer, in the effectinge of that blessed worke of union, which I have longe wysshed and desired to see perfecte and complete, before I dye.

" Your Majesties moost humble duetifull and loyalle servante,

" T. E. C."

" 16. Julij. 1606."

The enclosed "scrowle," of which the Chancellor speaks in the preceding letter, exists in two or three copies; upon one of which are endorsed the grants of lands and manors made, at various times, by Queen Elizabeth, to Lord-Chancellors and Lord-Keepers; a second is endorsed, "a remembrance for my Lord of Barwycke," &c.

The suit or petition is as follows.

" Most Sacred Sovereigne,

" Vouchsafe, I beseeche you, to caste your gracious eyes upon these fewe lines, which humbly and bashefully I present unto you.

" I knowe it is true, *satis petit qui fidelitèr servit, et tacet*. But experience teacheth, he is not worthy to be remembred, that remembreth not hymself.

" I have served as Keeper of the Great Seale, and Chancellor, <sup>r</sup>tenne yeares and more. And I served the State many yeares before.

" I have performed the services incident to the office of Chancellor in <sup>s</sup>fourseverall Sessions of Parlementes; whereof two in your Majesties blessed raigne over us.

" Your Majestie was pleased (and I humbly obeyed) that I shoulde leave and yelde uppe the office of Maister of the Rolles, (wherein I had an estate for my lyfe,) and the office of Chamberlayne of Chester, which I had enjoyed by the space of eleven yeares: both which offices are of verie good value.

" Yt cost me above 1000<sup>l</sup> for the late Erle of Essex' intertaynement, whylest he remaynde in my house by the late Queen's comande.

" In this great place, wherin I now serve, I spende a 1000 markes yerelye more then the annuall profitts of the office discharge.

" I never made proffette of denizens or church-livings, as most of my predecessors did.

" Whether I have beene *servus inutilis* in the blessed entree and beginnyng of your most happie raigne, and sithence; or in the great and carefull service of High Stewarde etc. at Winchester; or in these two Sessions of your first, longe, tedious, and yrkesome Parlement; your Majestie onlye, in your princely wysedom, can best judge. But that I am, and ever have beene, and ever wyll be, *servus fidelis*, God and myne own conscience will ever wytnesse.

" My predecessors' fortunes, and the rewardes they receyved (which theyr heyres enjoye) for lesser service and shorter tyme, putte me in remembrance of my selfe. And I wysh my state were such, as I neded not to be a remembrancer in this kinde."

<sup>r</sup> One of the copies reads only "eight years;" two others, "tenne," written over *eight*, which is crossed through. He had therefore formed his intention two years before.

<sup>s</sup> Four, written over *three* crossed through.



The following inscription was on his tomb-stone in the church at Doddlestone.

*Anchora Animae  
Fides et Spes  
In Christo  
Orimur: Morimur.  
Sequentur qui non  
Praecesserint.*

Of the manner, in which this distinguished statesman lived, there are memorials remaining, which, as they illustrate local history as well as the customs of the time, may also here be properly noticed.

And, first, as to his residence at the Rolls, and at York House in the Strand. The book of his payments, ordinary and extraordinary, at those houses, in the years 1596 and 1597, exists in the 'Bodleian Library. It appears, that warrants were then issued by him for the regular supply of his provisions; of which the two following are the most curious.

" At the Rolls the xv daie of July 1596.

" A Warrant for Anthony Papworth my Lord's fishmonger and servaunt to provide freshe fishe for y<sup>e</sup> provision of his Ldp's howse.

" To all to whom this present writinge shall come I S<sup>t</sup> Thomas Egerton knight, Lord keeper of the greatesseall of England, send greatinge. Knowe ye that I the said Lo:keeper have authorised, deputed, assigned, and appointed, and by these presents doe authorise, depute, assigne, and appointe, Anthony Papworth my servaunt, citizen and fishmonger of London, to provide and take by hymselfe, or by his sufficient depute or deputies, for me and in my name, and to my vse, within the ports of *Ffoulkston*, *Hythe*, *Winchelsey*, and *Bright-hemsted*, and within every of their members and limytts within the counties of *Kent* and *Sussex*, such kinds and sorts of freshe fishe as to hym, or them, or any of them, shalbe thought meete for my provision and spendinge in my howse: Contentinge and payinge to the partie or parties of whom he, or they, shall take the same, redie monny for the same provision. Requiringe all her Ma.<sup>ties</sup> mynisters and others, to whom it maie appertaigne, not only to be ayinge and assistinge vnto my said servaunt, and his depute and deputies, in and for the execution of the premises, but also quietly to permytt and suffer my said servaunte, and his depute and deputies, and his and their factors and servauntes, in this beghef, to go and passe by yow and every of yow with the same provisions without any lett or molestation by yow or any of yow, as yow and every of yow will answer to the contrary. In witness whereof I the said Lord keper have hereunto sett my hand and seale, the 15. daie of July, &c."

Then follows on the same leaf another warrant.

" At the Rolls the 6. Oct. 1596.

" A Warrant for John Oliver my Lord's collier and servaunt to passe free w<sup>th</sup> his cartes.

" Whereas the bearer my servaunt John Oliver is one that I do dailie vse for my necessarie service, as well for my carriages as also for my provisions, both in London and els where: These are therefore to require yow and every of yow, that yow suffer him quietlie to passe with his carte and cartes without any lett or molestation, as yow and every of yow will answer the contrarie. Given this 6. of Oct. 1596."

This last warrant is directed " To all Maiores, Sheriffs, Bailiffes, Constables, Purveiors, takers of carts and carriages, and to all other her Ma.<sup>ties</sup> officers and ministers whatsoever, as well within Liberties as without, to whom it shall or maie apperteine, and to every of them."

<sup>1</sup> MSS. Rawl. Misc. 406. This MS. was obligingly pointed out to the Earl of Bridgewater by the Rev. P. Bliss, of St. John's College, Oxford; and has been subsequently examined by the compiler of these pages. It appears to be "the Account Book of Morgan Coleman, Steward of the Household, for part of the year 1596, and till December 1597: the accounts therein being settled and allowed by the Lord Keeper, and his Lady Elizabeth." Fol. 1. " Fol. 162. b.



There are several memoranda also, in this manuscript, of his charities to the poor of St. Dunstan's, Fleet Street, and of St. Martin's in the Fields. The following entry records the prisons of that period, to which his bounty was extended, at Christmas, in 1596.

" To the Fleet .....	xx <sup>s</sup> .
To Newgate .....	xx <sup>s</sup> .
To Ludgate .....	xx <sup>s</sup> .
The King's Benche ..	xx <sup>s</sup> .
The Marshalsey.....	xx <sup>s</sup> .
The Whitt Lion.....	x <sup>s</sup> .
The Clink.....	x <sup>s</sup> .

Within the period before us we find the price of sheep, and of hay, to have been as follows.

" * To Mr. Porter for 40 loads of haye at xvij <sup>s</sup> . the load .....	xxxiiij <sup>li</sup> .
" * For xx sheep bought for provision of the howse .....	xv <sup>li</sup> .

As at this time also his Lordship had to attend upon the Queen, in an absence from the metropolis, his expences of lodging are recorded, which appear to have been *very moderate*!

" * For lodging at Richmond when the queen was last there .....	iiij <sup>s</sup> ."
---	----------------------

I will now select a weekly bill or two of his expences apparently at *Ashridge*; though he certainly also possessed, at the date of these papers, *Harefield* in Middlesex; having purchased this latter place jointly with his second wife, Alice, who was Countess of Derby. I take two weeks in succession; to the second of which is added in the account, "*My Lady came this weeke vppon Thursday supper.*"

" \* From the 4 of Feb. 1603 to the 11.

	li.	s.	d.
" Larder .....	14	4	8
Buttry .....	0	47	0
Pantry and Pastry .....	0	26	8
Sellor .....	0	26	4
Woodyard and colehouse.....	3	17	2
Spycery .....	0	10	4
Chaundry .....	0	17	8
Sawcery .....	0	14	8
Rewards .....	0	5	6
Stable .....	0	56	5
Extraord. bylles .....	0	23	5

" From the 11. of Feb. to the 18.

" Larder .....	16	8	7
Buttry .....	0	51	4
Pantry and Pastry .....	0	34	0
Wood and colehouse .....	5	5	6
Spycery .....	0	8	11
Chaundry .....	0	22	10

\* Fol. 39.  
\* Fol. 48.

\* Fol. 50.  
\* MSS. Clev. House.



	<i>li.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
" Sawcery .....	0	14	5
Rewards .....	0	14	4
Stable .....	3	7	0
Extraord. bylles.....	0	52	7."

It may be added that another paper, among the Ashridge manuscripts at Cleveland House, gives in gross a whole quarter's expences, in the aforesaid articles, at 658<sup>li.</sup> 1<sup>s.</sup> 4<sup>d.</sup> ob. And subjoins, "Remaynder at *Yorck Howse* and *Harvyld* [that is, *Harefield*, in Middlesex] this quarter was 156<sup>li.</sup> 7<sup>s.</sup> 8<sup>d.</sup>" which, therefore, seems to appropriate the preceding charges to *Ashridge*; the date of the first account being in Feb. 1602, and that of the second from Jan. 1602 to the 25. of March following. The "checkrolle of his Lordship's household on the 20. of Feb. 1603," appears to have consisted of ninety nine persons.

The following interesting bills, on account of his grand-daughters, the first, the daughter of his eldest son Sir Thomas Egerton, who died young, which daughter was married to William Booth, son and heir to Sir George Booth, of Dunham, Co. of Chester; and certain expences at the Christening of Mrs. Magdalen Egerton, the ninth daughter of his second son, Sir John Egerton; present us with very curious pictures of the manners and fashion of the times.

" 6. May, 1615.

For a payre of hose for Mrs. Bouth, sent her to Ashridge .... *iiij<sup>s.</sup> iiij<sup>d.</sup>*  
 For 3 thousand pins sent thither also ..... *iiij<sup>s.</sup>*  
 For a payre of shooes sent also thither ..... *ij<sup>s.</sup>*  
 Some total..... *ix<sup>s.</sup> iiij<sup>d.</sup>*

Paid."

" Disbursed for Mrs. Bouth.

Viz. To Mr. Newport for teachinge her to play on the lute for vij  
 moneths, &c. at 20<sup>s.</sup> the month..... *vij<sup>li.</sup>*  
 2 Octob. 1615. For a blacke wrought holland wastecoate for her *xxxiiij<sup>s.</sup>*  
 For a blacke beaver hat and embrodered band, and new trim-  
 minge her old hat ..... *lvj<sup>s.</sup>*  
 Some totall..... *xj<sup>li.</sup> x<sup>s.</sup>*

Paid."

" Disbursed for Mrs. Bouth.

Viz. For ten yarde of bayes, gingerlyne coler, to make her a  
 loose gowne, kirtle, and wastecoate at 5<sup>s.</sup> y<sup>e</sup> yard ..... *l<sup>s.</sup>*  
 Paid."

" Disbursed for Mrs. <sup>a</sup>Arbella.

Viz. To Mr. Arondell a frenchman, to teach her french for  
 foure moneths, at 20<sup>s.</sup> the month ..... *iiij<sup>li.</sup>*  
 Paid, 26. of Oct. 1615."

" Disbursed for Mrs. Frauncis Egerton.

Viz. To Mr. Newport for teachinge her to play on the lute for 7  
 months, from the first of May 1615, &c. at 20<sup>s.</sup> the month *vij<sup>li.</sup>*  
 Paid."

<sup>a</sup> The Ladies Arabella, Frances, and Cecilia, mentioned in this and the next page, were also the Lord Chancellor's grand- daughters, the daughters of his second son.



## HISTORY OF THE

" Disbursed for Mrs. Frauncis and her sisters.

Viz. Delivered to Mrs. Heard by the ladye Frauncis her direction, to be payd to one who teacheth Mrs. Frauncis and her sisters to singe, for 6 months, from the first of May 1615, &c. at 40<sup>s</sup>. the month..... xij<sup>li</sup>.  
Delivered more by the lady Frauncis' direction to one to teach them to daunce for a month ..... ij<sup>li</sup>.  
Paid."

" Disbursed by your Lordship's direction.

Viz. 10. August 1615. For a little jewell sent by Mr. Panton to Mrs. Cecilia at the Bathe ..... vj<sup>s</sup>.  
31. Aug. 1615. For two troncks and a little coffer covered with leather for your lordship to put wrytinges in ..... xvj<sup>s</sup>.  
19. Octob. 1615. For a little jewell sent by Mr. Sutton to Mrs. Cecilia at the Bathe ..... v<sup>s</sup>.  
Some total..... xxvij<sup>s</sup>.  
Paid."

" At the Christninge of Mrs. Magdalen Egerton. The Lady Egerton hir bill, the 21 of August, 1615.

<i>Preserves.</i>		<i>li. s. d.</i>
Damsins .....	j <sup>li</sup> . 10 <sup>3</sup> .	0 4 11
Cheryes .....	j <sup>li</sup> . di <sup>li</sup> .	0 4 6
Whit pare plo. ..	j <sup>li</sup> . di <sup>li</sup> .	0 4 6
Rasberries .....	2 <sup>li</sup> . 0	0 7 0
Gooseberies .....	2 <sup>li</sup> . j <sup>3</sup> .	0 6 3
Grene plomes ....	j <sup>li</sup> . 3 <sup>3</sup> .	0 3 9
Aprecots .....	3 <sup>li</sup> . 12 <sup>3</sup> .	0 17 0
Quincs .....	j <sup>li</sup> . 4 <sup>3</sup> .	0 3 9
		2 11 8
<i>Drid Fruts.</i>		
Venis aprecots ....	j <sup>li</sup> . 0	0 8 0
English aprecots ..	0. di <sup>li</sup> .	0 5 0
French aprecots ..	0. di <sup>li</sup> .	0 5 0
Drid cheryes ....	j <sup>li</sup> . 0	0 8 0
Drid gooseberys ..	j <sup>li</sup> . 0	0 8 0
Past of Jane ....	j <sup>li</sup> . di <sup>li</sup> .	0 7 6
Plombes of Jane ..	j <sup>li</sup> . di <sup>li</sup> .	0 12 0
Pares of Jane ....	j <sup>li</sup> . di <sup>li</sup> .	0 7 6
Muske pares ....	j <sup>li</sup> . 0	0 5 0
Imperyall plo. ....	j <sup>li</sup> . di <sup>li</sup> .	0 9 0
Virdacia plo. ....	j <sup>li</sup> . 0	0 6 0
Amber plo. ....	j <sup>li</sup> . di <sup>li</sup> .	0 9 0
Ollif plo. ....	j <sup>li</sup> . di <sup>li</sup> .	0 9 0
Black pare plo. ....	j <sup>li</sup> . 0	0 6 0
Grene plombes ..	j <sup>li</sup> . di <sup>li</sup> .	0 7 6



## COLLEGE OF ASHRIDGE.

41

				<i>li.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Marcella plo. ....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	6	0
Yellow plomes ..	2 <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	8	0
Grene sitterne....	2 <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	6	8
Drid orrings ....	j <sup>u</sup> .	di <sup>u</sup> .	.....	0	5	0
Drid lemons ....	j <sup>u</sup> .	di <sup>u</sup> .	.....	0	5	0
Eringoes.....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	5	0

7 8 2

*Rock Candes.*

Wardens.....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	5	0
Aprecots .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	5	0
Artichauks .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	5	0
Nutmegs.....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	5	0
Roses .....	0	di <sup>u</sup> .	.....	0	2	6
Marygoles .....	0	di <sup>u</sup> .	.....	0	2	6
Sitron .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	5	0
Buckhones .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	5	0

1 15 0

*Pastes.*

Of raspberies ....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	3	4
Of grene dats ....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	3	4
Of gooseberys ..	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	3	4
Of barbres .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	3	4
Of aprecots .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	3	4
Macarones .....	3 <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	9	0
Bisket telles ....	2 <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	6	8

1 12 4

*Comfets.*

Almons .....	5 <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	6	8
Collyanders ...	3 <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	4	0
Anneseds .....	2 <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	2	8
Sinement .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	1	6
Ginger .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	1	6
Lemons .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	1	6
Roses .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	1	6
Violets .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	1	6
Muske .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	1	6
Orringe .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	1	6
Rosemary .....	j <sup>u</sup> .	0	.....	0	1	6
Ambergrese.....	0.	di <sup>u</sup> .	.....	0	2	0
Fine sinement ..	0.	4 <sup>3</sup> .	.....	0	1	0
Muscadines.....	0.	4 <sup>3</sup> .	.....	0	1	0

1 9 4

For a stander marchpane .....				1	0	0
Prince bisket 4 <sup>u</sup> . .....				0	4	8
A double boxe of wafers .....				0	2	0
Bankettinge 1 <sup>u</sup> . .....				0	2	0

1 8 8

Som. 16<sup>u</sup>. 5<sup>s</sup>. 2<sup>d</sup>.

M



## HISTORY OF THE

*More since the banquet.*

			li.	s.	d.
2 double boxes of wafers ....	0.	0	0	4	0
2 double boxes of wafers ....	0.	0	0	4	0
Pastes of sorts .....	2 <sup>li</sup> .	0	0	6	8
Drid suckit .....	2 <sup>li</sup> .	0	0	5	4
Prince bisket.....	2 <sup>li</sup> .	0	0	2	8
Almond com.....	4 <sup>li</sup> .	0	0	5	4
Collyanders .....	2 <sup>li</sup> .	0	0	2	8
Anneseds .....	j <sup>li</sup> .	0	0	1	4
Sinement .....	j <sup>li</sup> .	0	0	1	6
Bisket caks .....	2 <sup>li</sup> .	0	0	5	0
Preserved orrings .....	2 <sup>li</sup> .	0	0	5	0
For the pote.....	0.	0	0	0	2
Bisket cakes .....	0.	12 <sup>3</sup> .	0	2	0
Preserved aprecots .....	2 <sup>li</sup> .	5 <sup>3</sup> .	0	11	7
Preserved damsins .....	2 <sup>li</sup> .	5 <sup>3</sup> .	0	7	0
Rasberys .....	j <sup>li</sup> .	7 <sup>3</sup> .	0	5	3
For a pote and 2 glasses ....	0.	0	0	1	0
For the { For 3 dozen and halfe of boules .....			0	1	2
hyer { For 7 dozen of plates .....			0	2	4
For 2 plates wantinge ...			0	1	0
			3	15	0
Som. totalis....			20	0	2

More for a boxe of wafers ..... ij<sup>s</sup>.  
 Received in full payment ..... xx<sup>li</sup>.

“ By me Edwin Saule.

22. Aug. 1615. Payd more to two porters which brought those  
 sweetmeates and glasses to Yorkhouse, and caryed away  
 the glasses and emptie boxes ..... iij<sup>s</sup>.  
 Some total ... xx<sup>li</sup>. iij<sup>s</sup>.

Paid.”







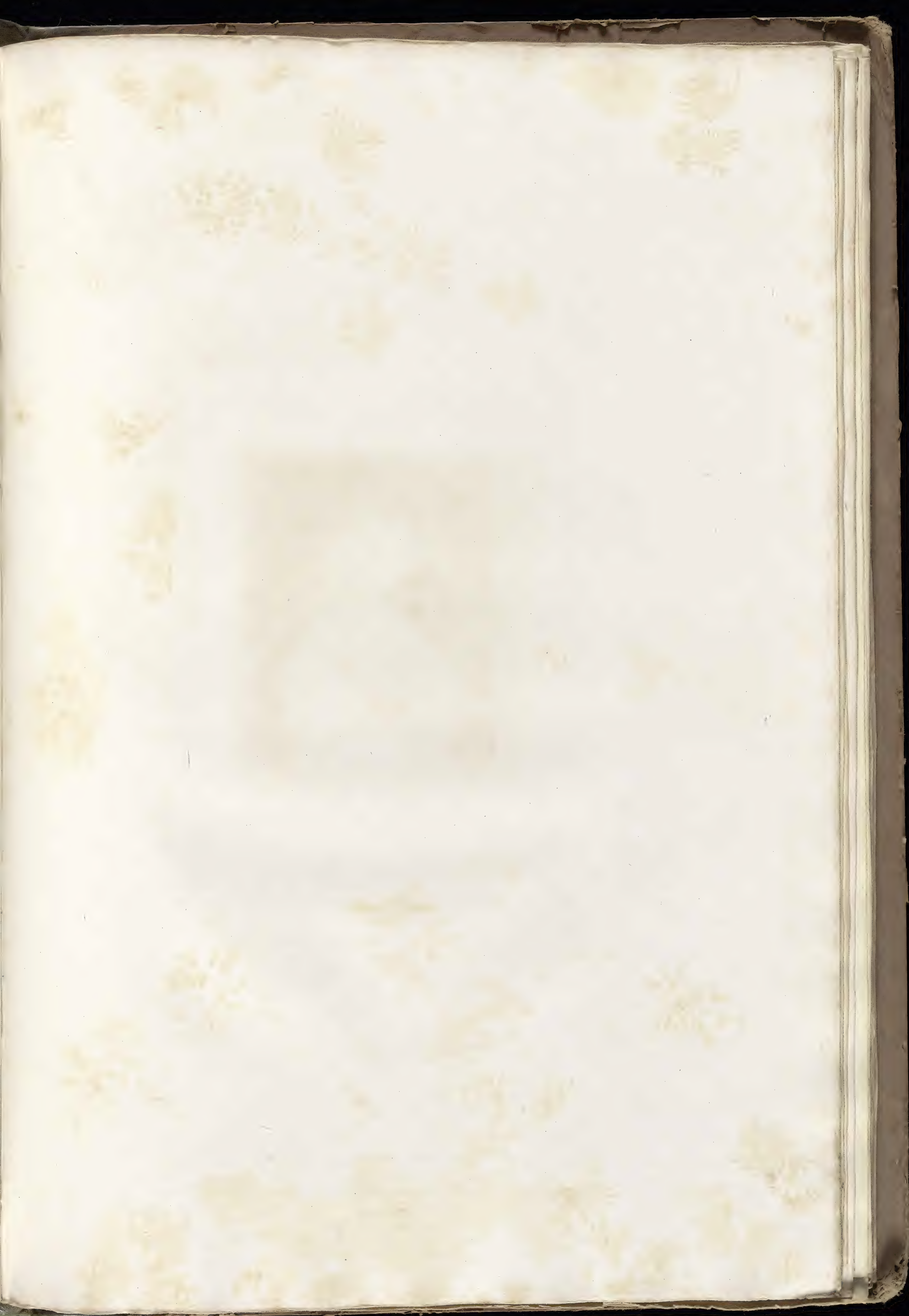


Engraved by W. Evans.

*The Hon. Thomas Egerton,  
fourth Son of John, first Earl of Bridgewater.*

*From an original Painting in the possession of the Marquis of Stafford.*









Engraved by W. B. Davis.

*The Lady Alice Egerton.  
Daughter of John, first Earl of Bridgewater.*

Printed by J. Smith.



## SECT. V.

OF THE NOBLE OWNERS OF ASHRIDGE, FROM THE TIME OF THE DEATH OF LORD ELLESMERE TO THE PRESENT: TOGETHER WITH THE HOUSEHOLD BOOK OF THE SECOND EARL OF BRIDGEWATER.

I. ASHRIDGE became the property of his eldest surviving son and heir, John, who succeeded him in the Barony of Ellesmere and Viscounty of Brackley; and who almost immediately<sup>b</sup> after the death of his father, was created Earl of Bridgewater. Some of his<sup>c</sup> earlier days were spent, as were those of his elder brother Thomas, in the perils of a military life. In 1599 he served, with his brother, under the Earl of Essex, against the rebels in Ireland, when he was knighted, as his brother had been before, at the taking of Cales, under the same commander. Sir Thomas Egerton died at Dublin Castle in September 1599, leaving three daughters by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Thomas Venables, of Kinderton, in the County of Chester, Esquire. Sir John Egerton soon afterwards married Lady Frances Stanley, second daughter and coheir of the Earl of Derby, whose widow the Lord Keeper Egerton, his father, married in October 1600. At the coronation of King James I. he was made one of the Knights of the Bath. In 1617 he was nominated one of his Majesty's Councillors to Lord Compton, President of Wales and the Marches. From 1625 to 1631 we find him<sup>d</sup> nominated in various commissions of public importance.

In 1631 he was promoted to the presidentship of Wales and the Marches, and became, in consequence, Lord Lieutenant of the Counties of Salop, Hereford, Gloucester, Monmouth, Glamorgan, Caermarthen, Pembroke, Cardigan, Flint, Caernarvon, Anglesea, Merioneth, Radnor, Brecknock, Montgomery, and Denbigh; all which constituted, by the statute of Henry VIII., the Lord President's extensive domain. To his acquisition of this honourable post the MASK OF MILTON'S COMUS owes its foundation. He had probably been long<sup>e</sup> acquainted with Milton, who had before written ARCADES for the Countess of Derby, and who, it has been supposed, wrote also, while a student at Cambridge, his Elegiac Ode on the Marchioness of Winchester, in consequence of his acquaintance with the Egerton family. "I have been informed from a manuscript of Oldys," says Mr. Warton, "that Lord Bridgewater being appointed Lord President of Wales, entered upon his official residence at Ludlow Castle with great solemnity. On this occasion he was attended by a large concourse of the neighbouring nobility and gentry. Among the rest came his children; in particular, Lord Brackley, Mr. Thomas Egerton, and Lady Alice,

——— to attend their father's state,  
And new-intrusted scepter.

They had been on a visit at a house of their relations, the Egerton family in Herefordshire; and in passing through Haywood forest were benighted, and the Lady Alice was even lost for a short time. This accident, which in the end was attended with no bad consequences, furnished the subject of a MASK for a Michaelmas festivity, and produced COMUS. Lord Bridgewater was appointed [rather<sup>f</sup> installed] Lord President, May 12, 1633. When the

<sup>b</sup> Viz. May 27, 1617. Dugdale's Baronage, p. 415.

<sup>c</sup> Aubrey represents him, in his younger days, as "an indefatigable ringer!" Anec. vol. ii. p. 339. In the neighbourhood of Ashridge he might have indulged his taste, with little trouble, upon two or three fine peals of bells. The tenor-bell of one of the churches in the patronage of the Bridgewater family, (Edlesborough, County of Bucks,) and distant about three miles from the mansion, is, perhaps, hardly to be exceeded in tone by any bell that is rung.

<sup>d</sup> See Rymer's Foedera, vol. xviii. p. 67, et passim.

<sup>e</sup> See the edition of Milton's smaller Poems by the Rev. T. Warton.

<sup>f</sup> Because he had been appointed to the Presidentship in 1631. See the edition of Milton's Poetical Works, in 1801 and 1809, by the compiler of these pages: Preliminary Notes to Comus.



perilous adventure in Haywood forest happened, if true, cannot now be told. It must have been soon after. The Mask was acted at Michaelmas 1634."—Sir John Hawkins has also observed, that this elegant poem is founded on a real story; his account of which, though less particular, agrees with that of Oldys. Lawes, in his Dedication to *Lord Brackley*, perhaps alludes to the accident, in stating that the "poem received its first occasion of birth from himself, and others of his noble family."

This Earl continued to be employed in performing the commands of his royal Master, to whom he was a faithful and an active servant till the Civil war had unhappily begun; and he lived to see soon afterwards, those dreadful evidences of a kingdom divided against itself, the murder of its king and the overthrow of its constitution. He died on the fourth of December 1649. Three of his sons, and also three of his daughters, died before him. His character affords a most exemplary object of imitation to men of rank, wealth, and talent; and has been thus recorded by Chauncy in his History of Hertfordshire, and by several other writers, from the monumental inscription to his memory, remaining in the Church of Little Gaddesden, near Ashridge.

"He was endowed with incomparable parts, both natural and acquired, so that both Art and Nature did seem to strive which should contribute most towards the making him a most accomplished Gentleman; he had an active body, and a vigorous soul; his deportment was graceful, his discourse excellent, whether extemporary or premeditated, serious or jocular, so that he seldom spake, but he did either instruct or delight those that heard him; he was a profound Scholar, an able Statesman, and a good Christian; he was a dutiful Son to his Mother the Church of England in her persecution, as well as in her great splendour; a loyal subject to his Sovereign in those worst of times, when it was accounted treason not to be a traitor. As he lived 70 years a pattern of virtue, so he died an example of patience and piety."

His learning has been considered by Mr. Warton as a fortunate circumstance, because it enabled at least one person of the audience, and him the chief, to understand the many learned allusions in *Comus*.

II. JOHN, LORD VISCOUNT BRACKLEY, his third, but eldest surviving son, succeeded to the Earldom of Bridgewater, and to the Estate of Ashridge. He had been appointed Custos Rotulorum of the County of Salop, from which office he was displaced by Oliver Cromwell, and to which he was restored in May 1660. In 1642 he married Elizabeth, daughter of William then Earl, afterwards Marquis and Duke of Newcastle. In the troublesome times which followed, he appears to have been in danger of imprisonment. For, in his Countess's Book of Meditations, is "*a Prayer for her Husband*," written under such an apprehension. In the Gentleman's Magazine, vol 62, p. 1163, a Correspondent, signing himself A LOVER OF BIOGRAPHY (and who, if I mistake not, is an elegant poet and profound antiquary,) informs the world, that "he is in possession of a MS. 8vo volume, intituled "*True Coppies of certaine loose Papers left by the Right Hon. Elizabeth Countesse of Bridgewater, collected and transcribed together here since her death Anno Dni 1663*. All which is evidently the fair hand of an Amanuensis; and it has the Earl's attestation and subscription—*Examined by J. Bridgewater*. This MS. which has never been out of the hands of the Countess and descendants, is certainly a proof of a very uncommon piety at least, which in the accounts of her has not been at all exaggerated, and which, combined with her beauty, her accomplishments, her youth, her descent, and the pathetic epitaph on her death, of that husband who was himself distinguished for all learned and amiable qualities, appears to me, who, however, confess myself a partial judge, eminently curious and interesting. It consists of Prayers, Confessions, and Meditations, upon various occasions."

Among the late Duke of Bridgewater's Manuscripts are two attested copies of these pious and tender Meditations; which answer the character of them, already given. It should seem, in the prayer for her husband, that she considered him in danger of temptation as well as of imprisonment: for these are her affectionate and pious words. "Lord God, keep him from their ensnarements of imprisonment, and make his returne hither safe, without being intrapped by any of their allurements. God, grant these and all other things, which are





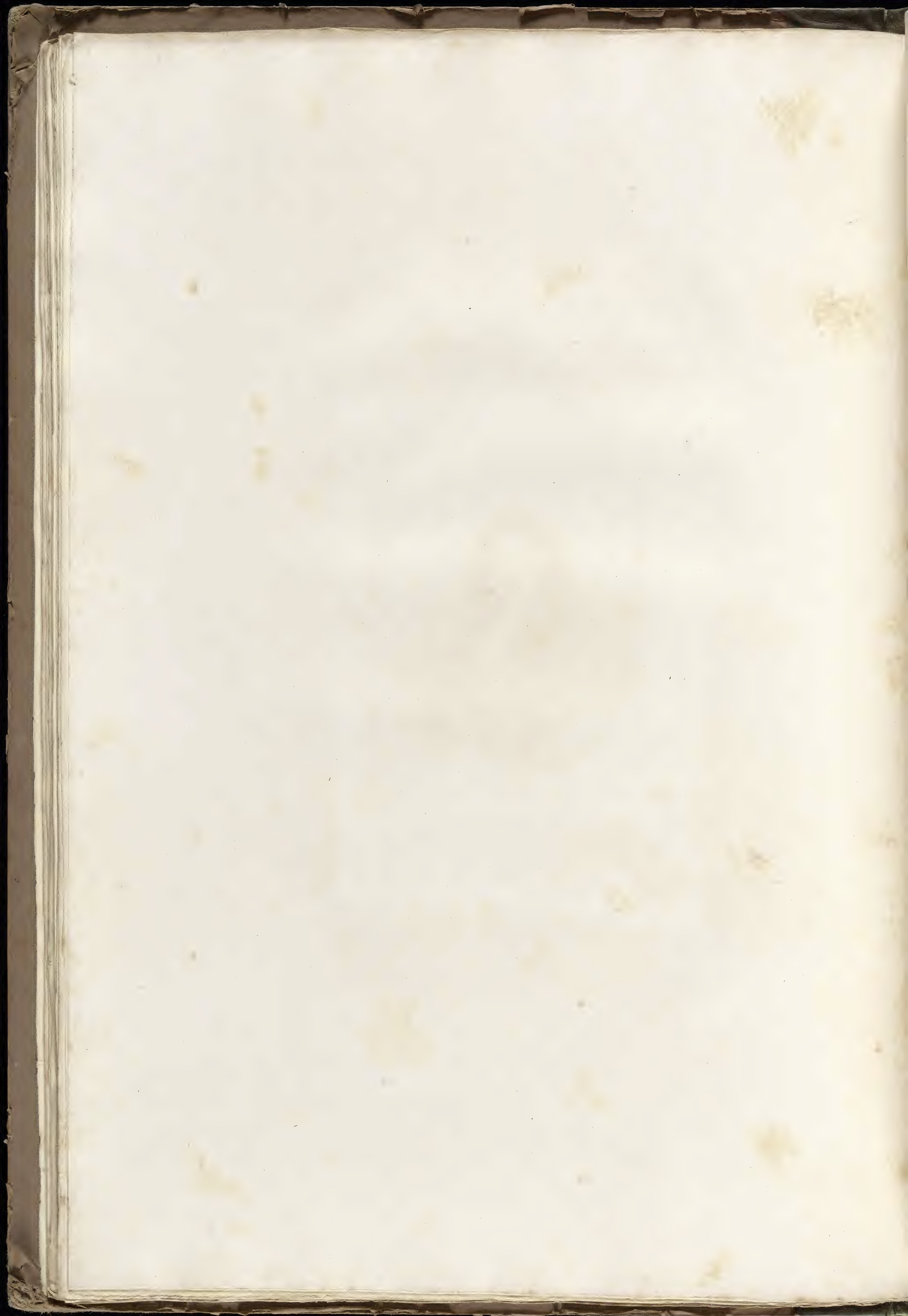
Engraved by W. Evans

*John Lord Viscount Brackley.  
Eldest Son of John, first Earl of Bridgewater.*

*From a Drawing in Water Colours.*

Printed by R. D. Jones







most needful for him, for thy Sonne my Lord and Saviour's sake; in whose name Thou ever bidd'st me call, and thou wilt heare!"

After the Restoration of King Charles II. the abilities of this Nobleman were particularly noticed.

But before we mention the appointments to public stations, by which he was honoured, it will be proper to notice a royal warrant, which was granted to him, in the September following the king's restoration; which is a curious document respecting *Ashridge and its neighbourhood, as to game!*

" Charles R.

" Charles by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To our right trusty and welbeloved Cousin, John, Earle of Bridgewater, Greeting. Whereas we are informed, that our game of hare, pheasant, partridge, heron, and other wilde fowle, *about Ashridge* in our County of Buckingham and Hartford, is much destroyed by divers disorderly persons with greyhounds, mongrells, setting doggs, gunns, trammells, tunnells, netts, and other engines, contrary to the Statutes of this our Realme in these cases provided; for the preservation hereof, and that our game may be the better *preserved for our sport and recreation att such times as we shall resort into these parts*; We doe hereby will and command you to have especiall care, that noe person or persons doe hereafter use any of the said unlawfull meanes, or engines, for the destroying of our game. And if any person, after signification of this Our pleasure, shall presume with greyhounds, mongrells, setting doggs, gunns, tramells, tunnells, netts, or other engines, to hurt or kill our said game of hare, pheasant, partridge, heron, or other wilde fowle, *within ten miles compasse of the said Ashridge*; We doe hereby give full power and authority unto you, and to your deputy or deputyes, to seise and take away all, or any, of the saide greyhounds, mungrells, setting doggs, trammells, tunnells, gunns, netts, and other engines, and them to deteyne; and to certifie Us or Our Privy Councell the names of any persons soe offending, to the end such further order may be taken for their punishment, as shal be fitt in cases of such misdemeanor and contempt; Willing and requiring all Justices of Peace, Mayors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, Constables, and other our Officers, to be ayding or assisting to you herein. And for soe doing these Our Letters shal be unto you and your deputyes a sufficient Warrant. Given under Our Signett att Our Palace att Whitehall, this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September in the twelwe yeare of Our Reigne. By his Majesties Command. Edw. Nicholas."

The Earl lost no time in putting this delegated power into action, in Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and Bedfordshire. His first deputy appears to have been Sir Richard Anderson, of *Penley*, by his Warrant, dated Oct. 16. 1660; and he has left memoranda of similar deputations to Justice Smith of *Edgborough*, or *Edlesborough*, his nephew Napier, and his steward Bulmer, in the same year; and to gentlemen of *Tring*, *Hemel-Hempsted*, and *Whipsnade*, in succeeding years. His Warrant opens with a declaration, that "it is his Majesty's will and pleasure, that all possible meanes and endeavours shal be used for the preservation of the royall game *in every respective county within this realme*."

We now behold him invested with more important powers. In 1662 he was appointed with the Lord Chancellor, and the Bishop of London, to manage the Conference of the two Houses of Parliament upon the Bill for Uniformity. On the 14th of May 1663 he was chosen High Steward of the University of Oxford, having on the same day been previously created M. A. The gratification, which this honourable appointment must have afforded him, was, however, suddenly interrupted. In the succeeding month his beloved and accomplished Countess died; a lady, whom (as Granger has elegantly observed) the virtues and the graces conspired to render one of the best and most amiable of women. His grief appears to have been indelible, however it might have admitted temporary consolation; and he desired it to

<sup>f</sup> Bridgewater MSS, Clev. House.



be recorded in those simple terms which, while they shew that “*the loss of her could never from his heart,*” prove also the impressive eloquence of unaffected sorrow. Her death accompanied an event of particular importance. On the 12th of June 1663 he had received a challenge from the Earl of Middlesex, which he accepted; the knowledge of which coming to the king, who endeavoured in vain (owing to the obstinacy of Lord Middlesex) to accommodate the dispute; they were severally ordered into custody; the Earl of Middlesex to the Tower, and the Earl of Bridgewater to the care of the Black Rod. His affectionate lady went with him, and died in child-bed, in the same house where he was confined on the 14th. On the 15th he was ordered to his own house in Barbican, still a prisoner. The two lords were afterwards reprimanded, and Lord Middlesex was directed to make an apology to the Earl of Bridgewater. On the 13th of February 1666, he was sworn into the Privy Council: and though he did not comply with all the measures of those times, yet he continued a Privy Counsellor during the remainder of King Charles the second's reign, as appears by his being again sworn in 1679, when the old Council was dissolved, and a new one constituted. In this, as well as in the succeeding reign, he was also Lord Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the Counties of Buckingham, Lancaster, Northampton, and Hertford. In 1667, he was appointed to examine into the application of the several sums of Money granted to his Majesty, for maintaining the War against the Dutch. In 1668 he was appointed one of the Commissioners of Trade and Plantations. In 1672 he was elected High Steward of Wycombe, in the County of Bucks. In 1675 he took an active part against a Bill, entitled, “An Act to prevent the dangers which may arise from persons disaffected to Government;” an Act, which occasioned so much opposition, that it was carried only by a Majority of two voices in the House of Peers. The Protesting Lords were looked upon as of the Country party. In the same year, on the rejection of a motion made in the House of Peers, for an Address to the King to dissolve the Parliament, he, with twenty-one other Lords, who were all that were in the House early enough to protest, before the Parliament was prorogued, entered his dissent to the vote that passed; a measure, for which he was <sup>h</sup> afterwards extremely sorry.

Sir Henry Chauncy, who was well acquainted with this Earl, relates the following particulars of him in his History of Hertfordshire: “He was a person of middling stature, somewhat corpulent, with black hair, a round visage, a modest and grave aspect, a sweet and pleasant countenance, and a comely presence. He was a learned man, delighted much in his Library, and allowed free access to all, who had any concerns with him. His piety, devotion in all acts of religion, and firmness to the established Church of England, were very exemplary; and he had all other accomplishments of virtue and goodness. He was very temperate in eating and drinking; but remarkable for hospitality to his neighbours, charity to the poor, and liberality to strangers. He was complaisant in company, spoke sparingly, but always very pertinently; was true to his word, faithful to his friend, loyal to his Prince, wary in Council, strict in his justice, and punctual in all his actions.” Mr. Warton has observed, that <sup>i</sup> this account of his person perfectly corresponds with Milton's description of his beauty and deportment while a boy; and the panegyric, it may be supposed, was as justly due to his younger brother Thomas, who performed the part of the SECOND BROTHER in *Comus*, as the Earl had that of the FIRST.

The Earl, whose history we have been considering, was a great encourager of learning. From several works, to which he was a liberal patron, I must not omit to select that most valuable treasury of sacred criticism, *Pole's Synopsis Criticorum*. He died in 1686, and was buried at Little-Gaddesden, where there is a Monument to his Memory with an inscription, which principally records that he *desired* no other memorial of him, *but only this*: That having (in the 19th year of his age) married the Lady Elizabeth Cavendish, daughter to the then Earl, since Marquis, and after that Duke of Newcastle, he did enjoy (almost 22 years) all the happiness that a man could receive in the sweet society of the best of wives, till it pleased God, in the 41st year of his age, to change his great felicity into as great misery, by depriving him of his truly loving and entirely beloved wife, who was all his worldly bliss: After which time

<sup>a</sup> “Should God create another Eve, and I

“Another rib afford, yet *loss of thee*

“*Would never from my heart.*” MILTON, P. L. B. ix.

<sup>b</sup> See the last edition of Milton's Poetical Works, in the Preliminary Notes to *Comus*.

<sup>i</sup> Prelim. Notes, *ut supra*.



humbly submitting to, and waiting on, the Will and Pleasure of the Almighty, he did sorrowfully wear out 23 Years 4 Months and 12 Days, and then on the 26th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1686, and in the 64th year of his own age, yielded up his soul into the merciful hand of God who gave it.

The household roll of this Nobleman presents a most curious and interesting picture of the moral government and economical order by which his domestics were to be governed; and of the religious and honourable principles which directed himself. It contains the following commands.

" June 24, 1652.

" *\* These are the Orders which I require and command to be observed by all the servants in my Family in their severall and respective degrees.*

" *J. Bridgewater.*

" FIRST. All the servants in the house, att the ringinge of the bell or other warnings given, are immediately to repaire to the morninge and eveninge prayers, or sermons, either in the Chappell, or such place as I shall appoint, for those duties to bee performed in, and thither to come with reverence; and there to continue with devout behaviour; and not to absent themselves, unless with leave obtained upon some speciall and urgent occasion.

" 2. ALL both gentlemen and yeomen are in a willing and decent manner to bringe up the first course to the Table, and because the attendance of the gentlemen cannot afterwards be spared from thence, duringe the meale; the yeomen are afterwards to bringe up the second course, and the fruite. And all take care not to use any uncivill, careless, slightinge, or unseemly demeanour, in their attendance at the Table; and particularly to shew respect and curtesie unto strangers.

" 3. ALL are diligently to attend their service at the Table, without gazinge about, (soe blindinge their owne eyes from findinge what is fittinge for them to doe, without being called) or listening too earnestly to what is said (so stoppinge their owne ears against the calle of such as shall have occasion to make use of them,) and the yeomen are further to be ready with a willinge diligence, to bringe in and carry out plates, trenchers, sawcers, &c. or to doe any other service, as they shall be appoynted by the gentleman usher or yeoman usher.

" 4. ALL are to take notice that the meate taken from the table is to be delivered into the Clarke of the Kitchin's hands againe, in the Kitchin, without any imbezlinge or takinge away any part of it, that soe such care may be taken that the meate provided may suffice the family.

" 5. NONE is to carry out of the dininge roome any napkin, spoone, knife, glasse, or any thinge else belonging to the service of the table but by the privy or appoyntment of the Buttler, that soe nothinge of that nature may bee sett in windowes, or by-corners, there to adventure breakinge, stealinge, or beinge purloynd away, upon payne that he, who is soe found offendinge, doe pay for what is soe lost or imbezled.

" 6. CIVILL and sober demeanour is to be used by all the servants, one amonge another at their meals, at the severall tables, where they are appoynted to sitt; and all unseemly and rude deportment to bee avoyded both in words and actions; and none are to rise from the Table untill Thanks be first given to God.

" 7. BOTH gentlemen and yeomen are in their severall places to take care to give such attendance, that my selfe or my wife, respectively, may receive tymely information of the cominge of any strangers into the house, and that, if they bee such as we think fitt to admitt to speech with us, they may bringe them in to us with civill respect.

\* MSS. of the late Duke of Bridgewater, belonging to the Marquis of Stafford, Clev. House.



" 8. NONE shall allure or invite any Officer to give or deliver meat, drink or any other thinge within his Charge either to be mispent in Corners wastefully, or to be purloyned, and sent out of the house; nor shall any lodge any man or boy within the house, but such as are allowed in the Checkrowle of the Servants' names; neither shall any one, stranger, or other, be lodged within the house, but those appoynted by me, or my wife; nor shall any houshold-servant keepe, within the house, horse, hauke, grey hounds, hounds, or any other dogg, without speciall lycense.

" 9. IF any one shall wastfully, or negligently, breake, spoyle or lose any thinge committed to his charge, he shall make it good; but if, upon the loss or spoyling of any thinge, he, to whose charge it was committed, shall presently make it knowne, and it doe appeare, not through his neglect or carelesnesse, he shall not then incurre any blame for it, whereas his silence will make him to be afterwards blame-worthy.

" 10. ALL quarrelling, brawling, and fightinge, is to be forborne and avoyded by all the houshold-servants within the house, both with one another and with strangers, and amongst themselves abroad; but, upon occasion of wrong profered, they are to make it knowne to myselfe or my officers, that soe speedy redresse may be had.

" 11. NONE, appointed to lodge in the house, is to presume to lodge or to be late abroad, nor at any other time to be absent from his or their employment, unlesse with leave first upon some reasonable occasion obteyned; that got, others may be appointed to attend in their place.

" 12. ALL in general are to yelde obedience to the Steward, who is by me authorized for the governinge of the whole family; and to the gentleman usher, who is to direct in matters of attendance; and all footmen, and all that belong to the Stable, to the gentleman of the horse; that soe every one may bee informed what he is to doe in his service, and I may avoyd the trouble of givinge directions for every particular thing myselfe.

" 13. IF any one be found or shall give juste occasion to be noted for a notorious Swearer or Blasphemer, a Common Drunkard, or Haunter of Taverns, Alehouses, or infamous places, or a Misleader and Debaucher of his fellowes, by perswadinge them to obstinate Courses against these Orders, or my Officers' directions, and shall not, upon warninge given him, reforme his errors, he shall bee discharged; for I will not suffer soe great a blemish to the reputation of myselfe, and my whole family, to continue in my house.

" LASTLY, all in generall, if they intend to continue in my family, are to endeavor to live vertuously, and to performe carefully these orders, and such other as I may hereafter think fitt to establishe, yielding respect and obedience unto my Officers, in their commands, for my service, that soe good and peaceable conversation may be maintained amongst them, without malice, emulation, faction, or contention.

#### " PARTICULAR ORDERS FOR MY STEWARD.

" The Steward must,

" FIRST, have a Checkroll of all the names, offices, degrees, and entertainemente, of all the servants allowed to belonge to the house, as well such who by the nature of their employments are inforced, though they take wages, yet not to lie in the house, as such who are to be constantly resident therein; which roll beinge confirmed by my approbation, he must not suffer any other to remain in the housholde whereby unnecessary expences may arise.

" 2. TAKE care that my Orders for the government of the family be duly observed as well by all in generall, as by every particular Officer in his severall Charge; alwayes carryinge a course so upright and indifferent to all under him that none may have just occasion to complaine of unequall dealinge, but that



all goode servants may willingly love him, and such as are otherwise inclined may, by his impartiall exersising the authority committed to his charge, be compelled to feare and obey him.

“ 3. HAVE a speciall book of Inventory of all the houshold stuffe in the house, into which he is to enter all new furniture, whensoever any comes in, and is to cause every officer, into whose custody any such stuffe is committed, to sett his hand to a note of such particulars as he shall receive into his charge, that soe he may be, at all tymes, responsible for them.

“ 4. BE careful that all provision and bills be duly paid, and present entry accordingly be made, and is weekly to call upon the Clerke of the Kitchin for his book and notes of the expences, that soe, he havinge examined and allowed them, they may be entered in a faire book, fitt and ready at all tymes for my view, whensoever I shall think fitt to call for it.

“ 5. TAKE great care that from time to time (according to the conveniency of the place) sweet and wholesome provision be made, in such competent proportion, that neither by the distemperature of the season, or under great preparation, any thing provided may prove unprofitable, or unserviceable; and, if any thinge happen to be presented, must see that it be duly entered.

“ 6. CONFERRE every morninge (and afternoone, if there be any supper,) with the Clerke of the Kitchin and Caterer, as well for appointinge the diet to be proportionable, and sufficient to and for the number of the family, as also for providinge supplies, and not faile to visit, at fittyng tymes, the Wine-seller, Buttery, and all other offices in the house; that by his care, and good example, all the under-officers may be the more carefully thrifty.

“ LASTLY, must keep an exact book of his receipts and disbursements, and take diligent heed that there be noe errors neither in the substance nor manner of his accompts; and have a constant care that God be duly served, the houshold well and orderly guided, and neither myself nor my wife molested nor disquieted; and to these ends I expect that all my servants should yield him willinge and ready obedience.

#### “ ORDERS FOR THE GENTLEMAN OF MY HORSE.

“ The Gentleman of the Horse must,

“ FIRST, keep a perfect list of all my horses, of all kinds and of all ages, and must knowe them by their severall names and colours; and if any bee bought, or happen to be presented, must presently enter them; and, if any dye or bee given away, must sett such a note upon his name in the list, whereby he may after be knowne to be dead or given away.

“ 2. TAKE care that the horses that are at grass be placed in convenient places for their feedinge, and must often view them himselfe, and cause them to be viewed by some of them that belonge to the stable, that if they want meat they may be removed in convenient time, and if any happen to be hurte, sicke, or lame, they may speedily have the assistance of the farrier.

“ 3. SEE that the stable bee kept in goode and cleanly order, and that timely notice be given when any reparation is requisite thereabout; and must have a perfect Inventory of all Saddles, and other furniture belonging to the Stable, and must take care that they be well and cleane kept, especially cloathes, and, when need is, repayred and amended; and when any alteration is, either by buying, wearing out, or any other way, is soe to take notice of it, that by his book it may appeare how they increase or diminish; and must soe carefully looke to all that concernes the Stable, that noe waste may be made there.

“ 4. LOOKE carefully to all bills about the Stable, that the stuffe bee good, the prices reasonable, and that none of their bills be paid twice; and must constantly overlook the note of the weekly expences of the Stable, before it be delivered to the Clerk of the Kitchen, and if the expences have been such as he



knowes to have been fittyng, is then to signe it that it may passe into the household booke ; if they have been unfittinge, to refuse his hand, that soe inquiry may bee made and the disorder timely remedied.

“ LASTLY, have a carefull eye that the footmen, and all that belonge to the Stable, performe their duties, in their severall employments ; and from them, I expect, that they should all yeeld willing and ready obedience to him.

“ ORDERS FOR MY GENTLEMAN HUISHER.

“ The Gentleman Huisher must,

“ FIRST, carefully observe the howers for prayers, which are to be at halfe an houre past eleven in the morninge, and halfe an hour past six at night, and upon Sundayes, and such other dayes, as there may be Sermons, at ten of the Clocke in the morninge, and at halfe a houre past foure in the afternoon ; and at those times to give myselfe and my wife notice of the time of the day, that soe the Bell may bee rung for the callinge of the family together, for the performinge of their dayly duty to God.

“ 2. BE ready to bringe strangers to myselfe, and my wife, with civill respect, but yet take care that access be not soe far to us that wee be troubled with those wee desire not to admitt.

“ 3. HAVE a perfect list of the names of all the Servants that are appoynted for dayly attendance, that soe he may the more readily knowe whom to appoynt for the performinge any sudden service, as particularly for the bringinge up of Beere, or Wine, or such other thinge as shall be thought fitt to be brought in to strangers at their cominge into the house, and see that all the servants give their attendance at all times, according to their duties, as in their severall employments there may be occasion for them.

“ 4. AT convenient times inquire if myselfe and my wife be ready to goe to our meales, and then performe the office of a Server, by cominge up before the meate, placing it decently on the table, and after removing the dishes, as occasion is.

“ LASTLY, see that the yeoman huisher doe light up lights in a due time in those roomes and places which particularly belonge to his charge ; and if myselfe or my wife be out of our Bedchambers, that lights be brought in wheresoever we are in a seasonable tyme ; and, to such thinge as he shall appoint to any concerninge their attendance, I expect willinge and ready obedience should be yielded.

“ ORDERS FOR MY YEOMAN HUISHER.

“ The Yeoman Huisher must,

“ FIRST, be ready every morning by Seven of the Clock, in the Winter, and by Six in the Summer ; and then make cleane all the roomes and places within his charge, and all the household stuffe in them, of which he must not at any time suffer any part to be removed out of the roome it belongs to ; and, in Winter time, must make fires in those rooms where fires are appointed to be kept, at due houre.

“ 2. GIVE diligent attendance, that strangers that come in may be courteously entertained, but must not suffer such as come in to have access immediately to myselfe, or my wife, but must take care, that wee be first made acquainted with their cominge in.

“ 3. SEE that the Table be covered in due time, and assist the Buttlr in it ; and, in the absence of the Gentleman huisher, must give myself, and my wife, notice when the time for prayers is come.

“ 4. IF any thinge be left, after meales, in any of the places committed to his charge, carry it to the office it belongs to, that it may not be lost.



" 5. LIGHT up lights in a due time in those places that are committed to his charge ; and if myselfe, or my wife, be out of our private Chambers, must then bring in lights to us at a seasonable time wheresoever we are ; and before bed-time must take care that noe hurt come either by fyre or candle.

" LASTLY, yield ready obedience to such directions as he shall receive from the Gentleman huisher, upon any occasion concerninge my service.

" ORDERS FOR THE CLERKE OF MY KITCHEN.

" The Clerke of the Kitchen must,

" FIRST, attend the cominge in of all the provisions to see that they be goode and serviceable, and the prices reasonable, and that just proportion, weight, and measure, be observed in them, in their severall conditions ; and is to enter the nature, quantity, and prices of what comes in both of store, and charge, and whatsoever happens to be presented, with the rewards given ; and must have a special care of the examination of the truth and fitnessse of the Caterer's bill.

" 2. BE very diligent at meale tymes to see that none of the meate be imbezzled, but that, as he may be carefull that a convenient proportion be made ready, soe when it is provided, that it may bee soe used that it may suffice the family, must be sure to reserve such cold meats as are fit to come to the Table againe.

" 3. EVERY Saturday morning weekly present a declaration of whatsoever hath come in and what hath been spent that week, and what remayned the night before in every severall Office in the house, that the steward may examine it, and it may be ready for myselfe or my wife to view whensoever we think fit to call for it.

" Memorand.'

" THAT he must not enter the expence of the stable, except he finde the note of it attested under the Gentleman of the horse his hands ; and in the other Offices must not only barely write down in his declaration what accounts the under-officers deliver in to him, but likewise examine as well the fitness as the truth of them ; for, else, such errors as are in the household books must be charged upon him ; and, if any prove refractory by refusinge to amend by his directions, he must acquaint the Steward with their offences, that he may have his assistance for the reforminge them ; that so, as much as is possible, abuses may be redressed without disturbance to myself or my wife.

" 4. BE sure at such a time, when there is occasion to make more provision than is usuall, to call in due time for all necessaryes, that soe nothinge, that is fitt to bee had, may be wantinge when there is neede of it ; nor the expence be increased unnecessarily, or for want of provision made in due time.

" LASTLY, take care, at all times, that the meate be both cleanly and well dressed, and that noe waste be made in the Kitchin of such, or any thing else ; and that noe utensils of the offices most immediately under his Charge be lost or spoyled ; and I expect that all that belonge to the Larder, Kitchin, and Skultery, doe yield particular obedience to him ; and he must in all his imployment joyntly respect my honor and my profit.

" ORDERS FOR MY BUTTLER.

" The Buttlr must,

" FIRST, keepe his office sweet and cleane ; and give curteous entertainement to such strangers as are sent thither by myselfe, or my wife, or by our allowance ; not sufferinge any others to come within the office.



“ 2. BE carefull to view his vessels of all sorte often for fear of leaking.

“ 3. SEE there bee noe banquitting permitted in his office ; that soe the expence of it may be without waste or spoyle, and such as may best agree both with my honor, and my profit.

“ 4. SEE the binnes for bread be kept cleane and sweet, and that there be not spoyle made by Ratts, or Mice ; and that there be noe bread given out to be eaten in Corners wastefully.

“ 5. DELIVER all things at the barre which are allowed out of his office, and not suffer any to come in to be their owne Carvers.

“ 6. WEEKLY deliver a Note to the Clerke of the Kitchen of the expences of all things under his charge, that soe it may be justly knowne what remaines, and how what is spent hath gone away.

“ LASTLY, waite duly at the Table on which the glasses are sett, at meales, and not suffer any of the waiters to make any waste of any thing under his charge, either by eatinge or drinking there, or by carrying out breade or drink out of the roome, during the time the meale lasts.

“ ORDERS FOR MY WARDROBE KEEPER.

“ The Wardrobe Keeper must,

“ FIRST, keep a perfect Inventory of all the housholde stuffe, of all sorte, in the house, and take notice carefully of any alteration that is made in the placinge of the stuffe, that soe he may knowe how, (when the occasion is past, that caused the remove,) to bringe in all to the right places againe ; and must have great care to keepe all sorte of housholde stuffe cleanly and neat, and to mend them when there is neede.

“ 2. GIVE diligente attendance upon strangers in their Chambers, at such tyme as any doe happen to lye at my house ; and both then, and at all other tymes, keep the roomes well swept, and the beds in goode order ; and see that any thinge, that may be liable to give offence, be removed at a due and convenient tyme.

“ 3. KEEPE the Chappell cleane and neate ; and, when there shall be any occasion of makinge fire there, must be sure to kindle it at a due season.

“ LASTLY, be ready to assist the yeoman huisher in his attendance at meales ; and, in the winter, must every eveninge, at prayer time, light up lights in the Chappell and be ready to carry a light, to light myselfe, and my wife, and such company as goe alonge with us to and from the Chappell.

“ ORDERS FOR THE HUISHER OF MY HALL.

“ The Huisher of the Hall must,

“ FIRST, be ready every morninge in Summer by Six of the Clocke, and by Seven at the farthest in Winter ; and then keepe the hall, and all places under his charge sweete and cleane ; and, in the Winter time, make fire there in the morning at a due season.

“ 2. SUFFER none at prayer time to stay in the hall ; but must warne all that are either there, or any where there about, to come to prayers ; and, when meale is ready, must with a loude voyce call all the Servants together to carry it up to the Table.

“ 3. ATTEND diligently in the hall and cover the Table orderly at a due season ; and must more particularly give his attendance at the Steward's table, wheresoever that is kept ; and is to have an especiall charge of the roome.



" 4. PERMIT none, after meales are done, to sitt drinkinge in the hall ; but speedily make it cleane againe, that it may be fitt for Company to passe through ; and, if any thinge belonginge to any office be left there, must carry it backe to the place to which it appertaines.

" 5. GATHER together the broken meate that remaynes after meales, and carry it to the gate ; that there it may be by himselfe, and the Porter, distributed amonge the Poore.

" 6. HAVE a care that noe Gaminge be in the hall but at times allowed, nor no disorder there at any tyme. Memorand. that the Shuffle-board table is not forbidden by this order.

" LASTLY, sett up lights at due times in such places, as are allowed in his charge to have any ; and, before bed-time, must be carefull that noe harme come by fire, or candle ; and must have a care that noe waste be made either of fuell, or candles in the hall.

#### " ORDERS FOR MY PORTER.

" The Porter must,

" FIRST, attend diligently at the gates, and give curteous answers to all that have occasion to come ; but must not too suddenly admitt any into the gate, before he knowe either their persons or their business.

" 2. KEEPE the gate and places aboute it cleane and sweete ; and must see that nothinge, neither houshold stuffe, plate, meate, or drinke be carryed forth, neither by any of the house, nor by strangers, but must staye the parties, and informe the Steward, that such miscarriages may be reformed.

" 3. RING the bell when he is directed thereto by the Gentleman huisher, or yeoman huisher, to call all the family to prayers ; and must not then permitt any to stay about the gate, or in the lodge, but must send them all to prayers ; and must likewise send them all in at meale times, that they may be ready to give their attendance at the Table, accordinge to their duty ; and must keepe the gates shutt all the while the family is at prayers, or at meales.

" 4. OPEN the gate in Summer at Five in the Morninge, and in Winter between Six and Seven, and shutt it againe in Summer at Ten in the eveninge, and in Winter at Nine, and must enforme the Steward of all such, who, being appoynted to lye in the house, either lye abroad, or come in at unseasonable howers.

" 5. BE very carefull that no Gaming be permitted in the Lodge in the night time.

" LASTLY, every eveninge, after the gates are shutt, have care of his fire and candle, and looke that noe Chimney about the house be on fire, and that there be noe hurt done by any fire cast out in any ashes or rubbish any where next the house ; and see that all barr gates be shutt, and then search the courte, and by-corners, to be sure there be none left in the house to doe any mischief in the night tyme ; and must be sure not to open the gates in night time, on a sudden, for feare of admitting any such kinde of danger, and must be very wary in all his employment, because the safety of the family depends very much upon his care.

" And, for the more necessary furnishing them who shall have occasion to make fyres in the chambers above with billets, [each] is to have the assistance of the Porter to saw them into a fitting length ; and, after, [he] is to carry them up into the places appointed, which belong to the chambers where they are to be burnt, that so those places may be supply'd by him as occasion shall require.

" After table, walking with his white rod in his hand before the gentleman huisher, with the first Course, to the dining room door, and after taking off the meat, at both Courses, see it safely brought



back into the Kitchen ; and in the meane while to see that no part of the meate be taken out of the dishes, which if it be, then to inform the Steward who it was that committed that disorderly action.

“ He is also to attend diligently at private Suppers to receive the meate at the yeoman huisher's hands that comes from my table ; and place it orderly upon the parlor table for the gentlewomen, that what comes from my table they may make their suppers with.

“ <sup>1</sup> *Directions which I require to be observed not onely by my Clerke of the Kitchen, and my Cooke, but likewise by all my Servants whatsoever, in such measure as they may be any way therein concern'd.*

“ That good Care be taken, that there be no Cutting of any meate, out of the Boyler, or from the Spitt, before it come up to my Table ; except onely for such who shall happen to be sick, or for whom I shall myselfe give, or send, a particular direction.

“ That, after dinner is ended in the dining roome, the meate that remaines be sent wholly and intirely to the severall tables in the Parlour, and in the Hall, excepting onely such meate as, by the Clerke of the Kitchen, shall be thought fitt to be reserved for further use ; and that no meate be convayed to any other place, or to any other person whatsoever.

“ For further explanation of this preceeding direction I require that the Officers, which belong to my Buttery and Pantry, should not pretend their employment for a necessity of keeping them from dining in their proper places with their fellow Servants, but shall for the future lock up, in the Pantry, such things as relate to their Charge, as soone as dinner is ended in the dining roome ; and, when they have dined, then shall returne to the further Care and ordering of such things as relate to their Charge

“ That the Larder Maid do not dispose of any meate out of the Larder, upon any occasion whatsoever, without the approbation of the Clerke of the Kitchen, or of my Steward ; that so the meate that is to be there preserved, may be always ready for the use of my table, if it shall be fitting to be brought thither againe.

“ That in all things Care be taken to avoid wastefull expence ; and that more particularly the Clerke of the Kitchen, the Cooke, and the Larder Maid, be watchfull to prevent the wastefull expence of Butter, which hath hitherto beene both too little considered, and too little valued, and too much wasted.

“ That the Clerke of the Kitchen, and the Cooke, be carefull to endeavour the execution of these my directions in their particular concernes ; and more immediately that they both take both great and constant Care to keepe the doores of the Kitchen shutt, from the first beginning to dresse any meate, till dinner be quite ended at the last table in the Hall, thereby to prevent not onely the slovenly accidents that may happen to the meate, either by the taking of Tobacco, or otherwise, but all other disorders, which have formerly too frequently happen'd upon the neglect of keeping shutt the Kitchen doores, as they ought to be.

“ For the better performing not onely this last, but all the rest, of these Articles, I expect there should be a constant kind Correspondence between the Clarke of the Kitchen and the Cooke, and that the Cooke shall readily follow, and put in execution, such directions as he shall from time to time receive from the Clerke of the Kitchen, or from my Steward.

<sup>1</sup> The following Directions form a Supplement to the preceeding, at the distance of nearly twenty years, written by the Earl of Bridgewater himself.



" If any of my Servants have beene guilty of so much Pride (as I doubt some have) as to exalt themselves (without direction therein received from me, or my pleasure therein known) from the Table in the Hall to the Table in the Parlour, I expect they should withdraw from that place, unjustly assumed by them, to the place justly due to them; without putting me to further trouble, or themselves to greater shame, by being, by my order, remov'd to their proper place; or, upon rebellious refusall to yeild obedience to my Orders, expell'd my Family.

" The directions herein given in relation to Dinners I expect shall be pursued as to Suppers likewise.

" *J. Bridgewater,*

" *Aprillis 7.<sup>mo</sup>—1670.*"

To these Orders were subjoined "*Memorials for Bulmer [his Steward] to put in execution when he should be gone to London,*" dated Oct. 17, 1673.

" 1. THAT no others be suffer'd to eat of my meat but my owne and my sonnes' servants, for whom it is provided; for it is not fitt strangers should be admitted to meales, *when there is no house kept.* This, rigorously put in execution, will suddenly stop that resort, which hath hitherto beene so very expensive to me. If any of my servants be refractory, and after one warning given do againe introduce a stranger to meales, let me be informed of the person; and I shall soone take course for his discharge, that he may neither further trouble me, nor give any more ill example to his fellow-servants.

" 2. THAT there be no strong beere, ale, or wine, at all spent in my absence; for *I keepe house at London*; and strangers must not expect to be entertain'd while I am away; much lesse must it be suffer'd, that that sort of provision be wasted by my owne servants.

" 3. THAT Sundayes, which have hitherto beene the dayes not onely of the greatest expence, but of the greatest disorder, be kept the most private of all other dayes. The employment, which best suites that day, is the service of God, and not debauchery abroad, much lesse at home.

" 4. THAT all the groomes be diligently lookt after, while both my selfe and the gentleman of my horse are away, that they do their duty, and keepe not themselves at an alehouse, nor their horses at the doore of one, while they make themselves drunke, and give their horses colds, to their destruction.

" 5. THAT I do not onely intend that the groomes should be held to their duty, but all my servants should be taken care of; that none of them, neglecting their service, spend their time at alehouses, making themselves drunke, and so becoming incapable to follow their businesse.

" 6. THAT whilst any of my sonnes are here, at any time, in my absence, these directions be still exactly observ'd, and no strangers admitted, but by their, or one of their, appointment.

" 7. THAT whensoever my sonne Brackley is here, in my absence, free accesse be allowed to whomsoever he will, and to no other.

" 8. THAT the use of wine and strong beere, which my sonnes shall call for, when any of them are here is not intended to be forbidden by these directions; but no other expence of wine, ale, or strong beere, is to be permitted, in my absence, but onely such as is directed by them, or one of them; but more particularly by my sonne Brackley, if he be here."

III. FROM THIS SECOND EARL OF BRIDGEWATER, of the name of Egerton, Ashridge passed to his son JOHN, the THIRD EARL; a nobleman, distinguished by having worthily filled some of the highest offices in the State, and much lamented as a just and good man.



IV. From him it descended to his third Son, SCROOP, the FOURTH EARL, and the FIRST DUKE OF BRIDGEWATER, the two elder brothers, Charles and Thomas, having been burnt to death, together with their tutor, in the great fire at Bridgewater-House, in Barbican, in April 1687.

V. JOHN, MARQUIS OF BRACKLEY, succeeded his father, SCROOP, in his honours and possessions, but died unmarried, at the age of twenty.

VI. He was succeeded by his only surviving brother, FRANCIS, DUKE OF BRIDGEWATER, the late possessor of Ashridge; by whom this place, with its appurtenances, has been bequeathed to his cousin JOHN-WILLIAM EGERTON, son of John, late lord bishop of Durham, who was the son of Henry, lord bishop of Hereford, the fifth son of John the third Earl, and brother of Scroop the first Duke of Bridgewater.

VII. As the late Duke died unmarried, and as William the elder brother of Henry before-mentioned had no male issue, the EARLDOM OF BRIDGEWATER (there having been no provision for the heirs male general in respect to the dukedom and marquise) descended to JOHN-WILLIAM before-named; who, in grateful remembrance of his immediate predecessor and friend, has magnificently distinguished, in the erection of another noble edifice upon it, the spot where the patriotic Duke of Bridgewater, the FATHER of INLAND NAVIGATION, spent many of his days; a nobleman who raised to himself a monument in the hearts of his countrymen, which will last as long as praise shall be paid to public spirit and to modest worth. "The noble canal that goes by his name has immortalized his memory; the memory of a nobleman, who even in the height of youth forewent the luxury of fortune, the pomp of titles, and the splendour of courts, to benefit futurity by a design so sublime as alone to confer the credit of the highest genius, and an execution so bold, yet so patient, as to give but slight hopes of its completion during his own life. His contemporaries have not been blind to his fame. But the stream of time, which soon hurries almost every thing else to the gulph of oblivion, will give the vessel which conveys his honours the greater strength as it goes, and bear it at last into the broad ocean of eternity."

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## SECT. VI.

### DESCRIPTION OF THE ANCIENT HOUSE, AND OF THE PARK.

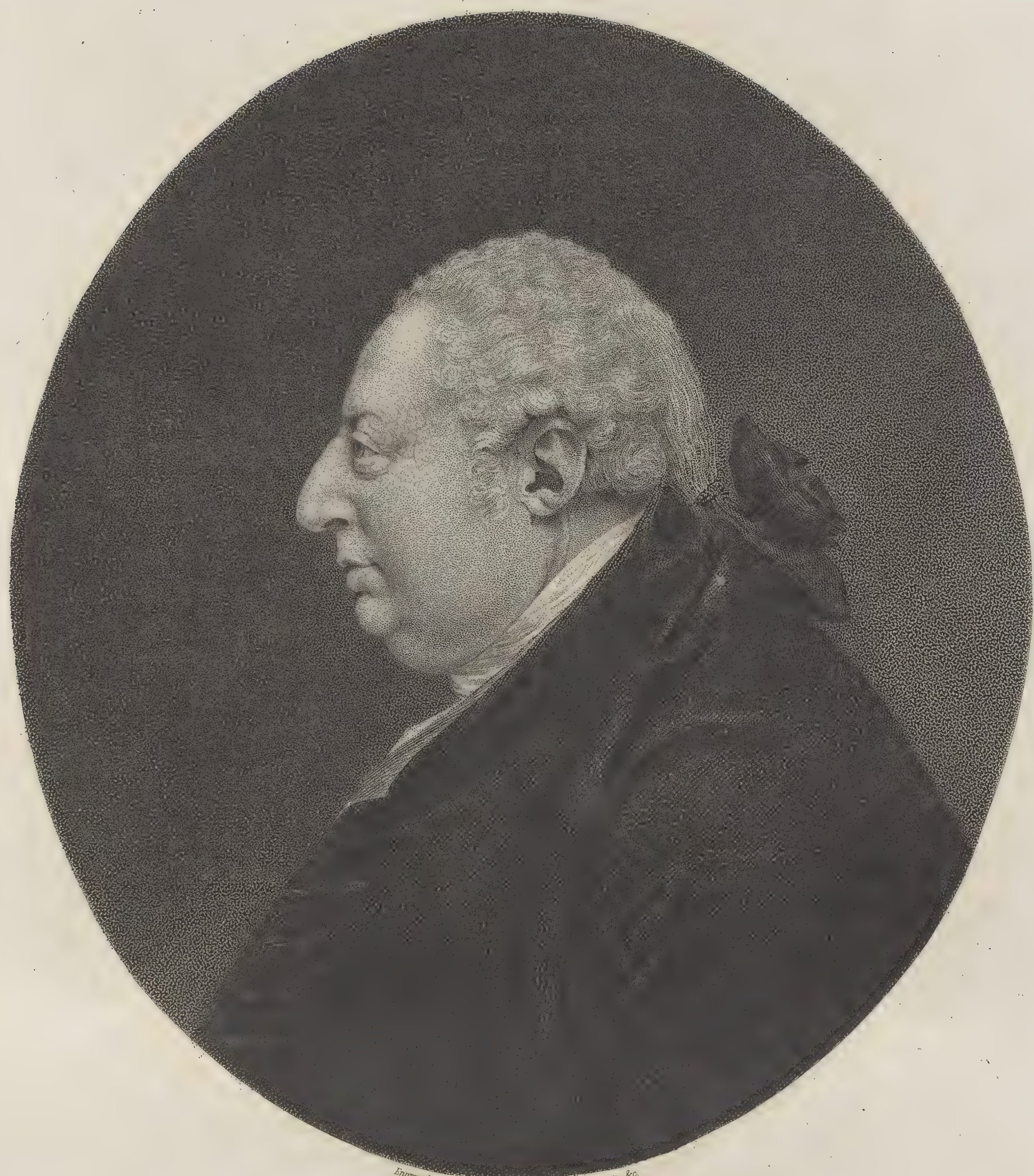
THE College was surrounded by a most noble park, about five miles round, consisting of ground varied into hills and dales, covered with a rich turf, and shaded with the finest trees of oak, and beech, and ash. To the want of water in it, however, the old poet Skelton alludes, in his complimentary verses, concluding with a Latin distich, on the inhabitants as well as the place:

"<sup>n</sup> Of the BONEHOMS AT ASHRIGE beside Barcanstede,  
That goodly place to Skelton most kynde,  
Where the *Sange royall* is, *Christis blode* so rede,  
Whereupon he metrifed after his mynde.  
A pleasanter place than Ashrige is, hard were to finde,  
As Skelton reherset with wordes fewe and playne  
In his distichon, made in verses twayne:  
*Fraxinus in clivo frondetque viret SINE RIVO,*  
*Non est sub divo similis SINE FLUMINE VIVO."*

<sup>n</sup> Topographer, vol. ii. p. 145.

<sup>n</sup> Skelton's *Crowne of Lawrell*. Skelton, who was himself a priest, flourished in the time of Henry the eighth.





*Engraved by James Heath, Engraver to His Majesty, &c.*

FRANCIS DUKE OF BRIDGEWATER.

Born 21 May 1736, Died 8 March 1803.

*Printed by W. Lacey.*







This park has still truly the appearance of an ancient park. It has been well observed, that ° it is not like most modern ones, which are too often patchwork, where the late enlargements are generally seen by the traces of former divisions, and the trees are the remains of old hedge-rows. This park, however, has repeatedly received additions, since the demesnes became the property of the Bridgewater family. There are grants for such enlargements among the records in the Chapel of the Rolls and in the present Earl of Bridgewater's Archives. To what the park now is, in some point of view, may truly be applied the distinction which Milton gives the spicy forest of Eden, that it is sweetly wild,

“ P Wild above rule or art.” —

What it was, rather more than a century since, may be partly gathered from a ° poetical view of Ashridge written in 1699, from which I select first the description of the *Prince's Riding*, one of the rides or walks before the house. The poetry is not over-exquisite, but the scenery is correct enough, bating the hyperbole of the last line!

“ The stately beech, *exactly in a row*,  
On both the sides, in full proportion grow :  
Their lofty tops so *even* and verdant are  
You'd think them spacious pastures in the air !”

I have been informed, that *capability* Brown, as he was called, employed his talents here, and probably with success ; for notwithstanding all the objections which of late have been made to the method of laying out grounds, pursued by Brown, it ought to be remembered, as an ingenious ° critic has observed, that he was among the first who (in the early part of the last century) *approached* towards nature, in discarding the artificial style and trim quaintnesses which were considered the great ornaments of garden-scenery before their time.

The front of the Mansion or College was enclosed within a court, to which the entrance was through a handsome gateway, formerly the porter's lodge, but large enough to contain several good apartments, in which the late Duke of Bridgewater resided. His Grace, not many years after his accession to the title and estates, had intended to pull down the College, and build a new Mansion. And in order to this design many fine materials were accumulated. The lodge also formed part of a residence which the present Earl of Bridgewater occupied, some time after the death of the Duke, and there witnessed, what had been projected by his noble predecessor, a splendid renovation of Ashridge ; the College having been pulled down about three years before his Grace's decease. I imagine this lodge not to have been built before Lord Ellesmere's time. In the poem, just noticed, “ *the lodge*” thus inspires the Muse :

“ The very *anti-palace* seem'd to be  
Sufficient subject for my muse and me :  
'Tis fairly wrought throughout, and so compact,  
And every frosted stone laid so exact  
With such a symmetry, it may be sworn  
All the whole mass is but made up of one.”

Being entered into the court, the principal front presented itself to the view. Along the middle part ran the seven high Gothic windows of the hall. On each side were wings projecting a little, and having each a large embattled bay window ; beyond each of which

° Topographer, vol. ii. p. 145.

P Par. Lost, B. 5. ver 297.

¶ Preserved among the Marquis of Stafford's manuscripts, and entitled “ the Vision, or a Poetical View of Ashridge, in the County of Bucks, the ancient Seat of the Right Honorable

John, Earl of Bridgewater. Together with the history and characters of the most considerable members of that noble family. Written by one of the female sex in the year 1699.” It is dedicated to the Lady Mary Egerton.

‡ Rev. W. Lisle Bowles, Pope's Works, vol. iii. p. 333.



extended two small wings<sup>a</sup>, supposed to have been erected in the reign of Elizabeth or James the first.

The entrance was through a porch into the passage, (in a College called *the Screens*,) on one side of which was the buttery hatch; on the other, the two doors into the hall, which was part of the College itself. The account of this noble room, as preserved by Brown Willis, corresponds nearly with its last appearance, some of the painted glass only being then wanting; but the beautifully fretted roof as well as the gallery over the screens escaped the notice of that learned antiquary: "The Refectory or Convent-Hall, which seems to answer to one area or side of the Cloisters is very high and lofty. 'Tis in length 44 feet, and in breadth 22, and a very well proportioned room. In the windows these arms are painted in the glass.

" 1. Sable on a Bend inter 2 Garbs argent three Escallops Azure on a Chief Or three Torteauxs.

" 2. Azure on a Chief Or three Torteauxs.

" 3. Argent a Lyon rampant Gules crowned Or within a Bordure Azure entoire de Besants.

" 4. France quarterly Or 2 Barrs within a Bordure Gules impaling England.

" 5. Frette Or et Azure Semi de Fleur de Lis quartering Or 2 Barrs within a Bordure Gules impaling Gules three Lyons passant guardant.

" 6. Frette Or Semi de Fleur de Lis Or quartering Or 2 Barrs within a Bordure Azure.

" 7. Argent within a Bordure 7 Mascles Gules.

" 8. Gules a Fess inter 6 Cross Croslets Or."

The next object of delightful curiosity, which here presented itself, was the Cloisters. These also were a part of the College itself. They formed a quadrangle. The length of them consisted, according to Browne Willis, of forty-one feet; the breadth, of ten feet and a half. The Cloisters of the Church, as we shall presently see, exceeded this measurement. The College-Cloisters were neatly vaulted with good ashler work of "Toternhall stone, having the arms of the College in the centre, and two or three other bearings interspersed. On the walls were beautifully painted, in water colours, forty compartments; almost all of which were entirely defaced in 1800; but the *Crucifixion*, and the *taking down from the Cross*, were those subjects which could still be ascertained. No less than fourteen of these divisions had been defaced, when Browne Willis, nearly a century since, visited the College. The damp, probably occasioned by the reservoir of water which these Cloisters surrounded, is believed to have occasioned much damage. The remarks of Browne Willis, however, fortunately preserve, in part, the history of what has been lost. The painted pannels were in the following order.

" 1. Defaced, but seemingly it represented Herod's cruelty.

" 2. Our Saviour's dispute in the Temple.

" 3. His Baptism.

" 4. His Temptation.

" 5. The Healing of the Infirm at the Lake.

<sup>a</sup> Topographer, vol. ii. p. 146.

<sup>b</sup> Brown Willis's MSS. ut supra.

<sup>c</sup> *Totternhall*, *Totternhoo*, or *Tottenhoe*, as it is variously written, is in the county of Bedford, and on the confines of

Bucks; and there is yet a quarry of excellent stone there, belonging to the Earl of Bridgewater, which has contributed no small portion of materials towards the renovation of Ashridge.



- " 6. The Transfiguration : *resplendebit facies ejus sicut etc.*
- " 7. The Raising Lazarus from the dead.
- " 8. Our Saviour riding to Jerusalem.
- " 9. The Driving the money-changers out of the Temple.
- " 10. Psalm 2.
- " 11. Our Saviour's appearance to two of his disciples.
- " 12. Celebration of the Passover.
- " 13. Our Saviour betrayed by Judas.
- " 14. His apprehension in the Garden, and healing the servant's ear which Peter cut off.
- " 15. His Trial before Pilate.
- " 16. His crowning with thorns, and robing.
- " 17. Pilate washing his hands.
- " 18. Defaced.
- " 19. Defaced.
- " 20. Our Saviour carrying his Cross.
- " 21. Setting up the Cross.
- " 22. The Crucifixion of our Saviour between two thieves.
- " 23. His taking down from the Cross.
- " 24. His Sepulture, laying him in the tomb.
- " 25. His descent into Hell.
- " 26. His appearance to one of his disciples.
- " 27. His Ascension, seemingly.
- " 28. His appearance to his eleven disciples.
- " 29. *Hii tres unum sunt* ; being a representation of the Trinity.
- " 30. This and the remaining ten \* defaced."

The Conventual Church, according to Mr. Gough's statement, stood in what was the garden, ranging with the Cloisters. What sort of a fabrick it was, says Browne Willis in a letter to Scroop, duke of Bridgewater, it " is not easy to guess, tho' I presume it was 2 thirds longer than the Cloysters, which, in Religious Houses, generally made a third part of the Church, and always opened into it on the North or South side, and had on the East part commonly a Chapter-House. By a Legacy of 100<sup>li</sup> of Cardinal \* Beaufort, B<sup>p</sup> of Winchester, A<sup>o</sup> 1447, I judge the Cloysters and good part of the House now standing was built temp. Hen. 6. within less than 100 years before the Reformation, and being a good building occasioned its being preserved. In the Chapell of Nettleden, which I take to have been built about 1470, (because I have seen a Licence from the B<sup>p</sup> of Lincoln dated that year to John

\* Browne Willis's MSS. ut supra.

† Letter to the duke of Bridgewater, dated Whaddon Hall, Sept. 26, 1723.

\* See the Cardinal's benefactions before enumerated in the Register of the College.



Hunden B<sup>p</sup> of Landaff, who held L. Gaddesden Rectory in Commendam, to consecrate it, is on an altar or herse cloth of brown velvet the Arms of Ashridge Convent, viz. <sup>a</sup> *On a Tomb Or bordured Gobone Argent & Azure a Lamb displaying a Banner Argent*; which Vestment no doubt belonged to the Convent before the dissolution, and was converted to this use at the dispersion of the goods of the Convent." An <sup>b</sup> Inquisition, however, both of the house and lands, which was taken at Ashridge on the 20<sup>th</sup> October, in the 17<sup>th</sup> year of queen Elizabeth, before Sir Edmund Asshefyld and Richard Young, supervisors of her Majesty's possessions, presents us with many curious particulars respecting the mansion and its appurtenances. It is as follows.

"*Com. Hertf.* } *Inquisitio* indentata capta apud *Asshridge* in Com'. predictis vicesimo  
*et Buck.* } die Octobris, anno regni serenissime domine nostre Elizabethæ, Dei gratia Angliæ, Franciæ, et Hiberniæ, regine, fidei defensoris, etc. sextodecimo coram *Edmundo Asshefelde* milite, supervisore omnium terrarum et possessionum domine regine Com'. sui Buck. et *Ricardo Younge*, supervisore omnium terrarum et possessionum dicte domine regine Com'. sui Hertf. virtute Commissionis dicte domine regine eis de Scaccario direct. geren. dat. apud Westm. ultimo die Junii anno regni sui sextodecimo post diligentem supervisionem, perlustracionem, et perambulacionem, in, per, et circa tam domum mancionalem de *Asshridge* pred. ac omnia structur. domos, et edificia, infra circuitum et precinctum scitus dicte domus mancionalis, quam omnia terr. pastur. boscus, subboscus, et alia hereditamen. dicte domni ad presens pertinen. per dictos commissionarios prius habit. et fact. vocatisque omnimod. operariis ad negocium illud exequend. necessariis per sacramentum *Johannis Belfield* generosi, *Thome Blackhead* generosi, *Johannis Eames* generosi, *Ricardi Whitley*, *Radulphi Feilde*, *Thome Allen*, *Willielmi Bysshop*, *Roberti Duncombe*, *Willielmi Axtell*, *Henrici Wetherhead*, *Matthei Bysshop*, *Johannis Grigge*, *Thome Dagnold*, *Willielmi Cocke*, *Thome Duncombe*, *Johannis Duncombe*, *Thome Putnam*, *Willielmi Higbey*, *Willielmi Roberts*, *Barnardi Turney*, *Humfredi Shale*, *Thome Barnes*, *Johannis Wigge*, *Thome Davers*, *Willielmi Allen*, *Thome Eltridge*, et *Thome Pynge*: Qui Juratores predicti dicunt super sacramentum suum, Quod domus mancionalis sive hereditamen. de *Assheridge* est annui valoris ut sequitur, et continet in terr. pastur. boscis, et aliis hereditamen. ut particulariter inferius specificatur, viz.

"*Scitus* domus pred. continet octo acras: Quidam campus vocat. *Turner ffeilde*, continen. per estimacionem quinquaginta acras: Unum clausum eidem adjacen. continen. quinque acras: Unus Campus voc. *Coninger ffeilde*, continen. quadraginta acras: Campus vocat. *the parke ffeilde*, continen. quadraginta acras: Unus campus vocat. *Tothill ffeilde*, cont. xxxij acras: Unus campus vocat. *Asshe parke*, cont. octo acras: Certi campi vocat. *the loose ffeilds*, continen. octodecim acras: Parcus voc. *the Busshe parke*, continen. lxxxij acras: Campus vocatus *Hudnoll parke*, cont. octo acras. Que omnia continent in toto cclxxxij acras, et sunt omnes terr. arr. preter predictos parcos vocat. *the Busshe parke*, et *Hudnoll parke*, ac jacent et existunt infra Com. Buck. preter xl<sup>a</sup>. acras parcell. dict. parci vocat. *Busshe parke*, que pred. xl<sup>a</sup>. acre sunt infra Com. Hertf. et dimittuntur *Ricardo Combes*, gen. pro cert. annis adhuc duran. pro annuali reddit. vj<sup>li</sup>. x<sup>d</sup>.

"*Sunt* eciam ibidem certi communes bosci, ut particulariter sequitur, viz. *Stepmother wood*, continen. decem acras: *Hardhill* et *Thorney grene* continen. iij acras jacen. et existen. infra Com. Buck.: *Northwood*, continen. per estimac. cxliij acras: *Southwood*, cont. per estim. cxlij acras: *Hamonds hill*, cont. per estimac. xxxij acras. Qui pred. *Northwood*, *Southwood*, et *Hamonds hill*, jacent et existunt infra dictum Com. Hertf. Ac qui omnes pred. communes bosci continent cccxxxj acras.

"*Presentant* insuper super sacramentum suum quod *Gaddesden* cum *Frythesden* est integrum manerium, et est annui valoris ut sequitur, ac continet in ter. arr. et aliis hereditamentis, ut particulariter inferius specificatur, viz. Unum tenementum et quatuor-

<sup>a</sup> What the learned antiquary has here described as the arms of the College, will be found to differ from Tanner's display of them, in his *Notitia Monastica*, where the field is *gules*, and there is no bordure. I am informed by a learned member of

the College of Herald, that the arms of Ashridge should certainly have no bordure.

<sup>b</sup> Preserved among the Earl of Bridgewater's title-deeds and evidences, at Ashridge.



decem acre terr.' vocat.' *Gaddesden howe*, infra Com.' Hertf.' in tenur.' *Johannis Eams*, generosi, pro annuali redd.' xx': Trescent. et quadraginta acre terr.' arr.' quarum xxxij acre et dim.' jacent et existunt in *Hudnoll* infra Com.' Buck.' resid.' earundem cccxl<sup>a</sup>. acr.' jacent et existunt infra Com.' Hertf.' ac sunt insimul annui valoris vij<sup>li</sup>. x<sup>s</sup>. v<sup>d</sup>. obq. ultra dictam summam xx'. supra specificat.' cujus summe vij<sup>li</sup>. x<sup>s</sup>. v<sup>d</sup>. obq. sunt cert.' liber reddit.' attingen.' ad summam xij<sup>s</sup>. ij<sup>d</sup>. ob. pro centum et viginti acris terre parcell.' dict.' cccxl acr.' terr.' arr.' ac resid.' redd.' pred.' est pro terr.' custumar.' tent.' per Copiam Cur.' sibi et hered.' Est eciam quoddam servicium debit.' annuat.' pro tenentibus de *Gaddesden* domui de *Assheridge*, viz. opus octodecem hominum per unum diem in Autumpno, et opus unius hominis pro dimid.' unius diei in Autumpno, necnon solvent annuat.' ad festum Natalis Domini tres capones. In *Frythesden* parcell.' dicti maner.' de *Gaddesden* sunt cclx acre terr.' arr.' quarum maxima pars est infra Com.' Buck.' ac sunt annui valoris vj<sup>li</sup>. x<sup>s</sup>. x<sup>d</sup>. ob. unde xij<sup>s</sup>. ij<sup>d</sup>. consistit in liberis redd.' pro xxxvij acris terr.' arr.' ibidem ac resid.' dicte summe vj<sup>li</sup>. x<sup>s</sup>. x<sup>d</sup>. ob. est pro terr.' custumar.' tent.' per copiam Cur.' sibi et hered.' Est eciam quoddam servicium debit.' annuat.' dicte domui de *Assheridge* per tenentes de *Frithesden* pred.' viz. opus viginti et quinque hominum per unum diem in Autumpno, et viginti galline ad festum Natalis Domini, ac centum ova ad festum Pasche. Communis finis de *Gaddesden cum Frythesden* per annum iij<sup>s</sup>. perquisiciones Cur.' ibidem communibus annis v<sup>s</sup>.

"*Presentant* insuper super sacramentum suum, quodd *Willielmus Dormer* miles tenet maner.' suum vocat.' *Luces* de maner.' de *Gaddesden cum Frithesden* per servicium dimid.' partis unius feod.' militis.

"*Presentant* insuper nullam fuisse devastacionem bosc.' aut subbosc.' ibidem per longum tempus except.' talibus bosc.' aut subbosc.' que, sufficien.' warrant.' ibidem succisis, asportata fuere.

"*Presentant* insuper quod nulla devastacio aut spoliū fact.' fuit in vel circa domum mancional.' de *Assheridge* predict.' except.' quibusdam ruinosis domibus, que ratione vetustatis corruerunt, quorum maeremium ibidem adhuc existit, ad nihil utile nisi ad urendum; Et aliqua pars domorum ruinos.' ibidem dirut.' fuit per quendam ° ——— *Stockwood*, supervisor.' operum domine Regine, ac cum eisdem alias domos ibidem reparavit et emendavit.

"*Presentant* insuper quodd domus vocat.' *the owtehowses*, alia necessar.' edific.' vocat.' *houses of office*, que ad presens sunt aliquantutū in decasu, non possunt sufficienter reparari et emendari cum summa centum marcarum.

"*Presentant* insuper juratores pred.' quodd ipsi dicti juratores nullo modo possunt cognoscere que domania, maner.' aut hereditamen.' dicte domui de *Assheridge* spectabant aut pertinebant, tempore dissolutionis ejusdem, aut certum redditum eorundem, aut quo titulo, vel per quem aut quos, eadem tenent, eo quodd jacent in longis remotis locis ac in manibus permultorum hominum existunt, ita ut veritas inde admodum difficilis possit cognosci, eaque de causa (quantum ad illud) ignorant.

"*Presentant* insuper super sacramentum suum, quodd sunt in quodam parco ibidem, vocat.' *Busshe parke*, sex acr.' bosc.' etatis circiter centum annorum: quelibet acra valet vendi vj<sup>li</sup>.—xxxvj<sup>li</sup>. In communi bosc.' ibidem, vocat.' *Northwood*, continen.' cxliij acras, (unde xliij<sup>s</sup>. acr. sunt vast.' sine boscis aut arbor.' alicujus valoris,) sunt centum acr.' bosc.' admodum sparsim posit.' cum fagis etatis circiter sexaginta annorum: quelibet acra valet vendi xij<sup>s</sup>.—lx<sup>li</sup>. In communi bosco ibidem, vocat.' *Southwood*, continen.' cxlij acr.' (unde xlij acr. sunt terr.' vast.' sine bosc.' aut arboribus alicujus valoris,) sunt centum acr.' bosc.' etatis septuaginta annorum admodum sparsim posit.' cum fagis: quelibet acra valet vendi xj<sup>s</sup>.—lv<sup>li</sup>. In communi bosco ibidem, vocat.' *Hamonds hill*, continen.' xxxij acr.' sunt xxxij acr.' bosc.' sparsim posit.' cum fagis etatis octoginta annorum: quelibet acra valet vendi viij<sup>s</sup>.—vij<sup>li</sup>. xvj<sup>s</sup>. In communi bosco ibidem, vocat.' *Harde hill* et *Thornegrene*, continen.' duas acras et tres rod.' bosci sunt arbor.' et subbosc.' ad valorem x<sup>s</sup>. In parco, vocat.' *Asshe parke*, sunt arbor.' et subbosc.' ad valorem xl<sup>s</sup>. Summa totalis valoris boscorum clxvj<sup>li</sup>. xvj<sup>s</sup>.

"*Presentant* insuper juratores predicti quod est quedam pecia terr.' vast.' adjungen.' parco per *olde wynche gate side* cont.' per estimacionem tres acr.' super quod sunt cert.' arbor.' valor.' xx<sup>s</sup>.

° Blank in the Inquisition.

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"Item presentant super sacramentum suum, quòd cum firmar.' terr.' dominical.' de *Assheridge* pro tempore existen.' allocat.' virtute literarum patentium sibi inde concess.' habere sufficien.' *ffyerboote* annuat.' de et super premissis, ideo juratores pred.' pro meliori certitudinev alor.' premissis deducunt annuat.' xl'. pro *le ffyrebote* firmar.' qui annualis redd.' xl'. in triginta tribus annis attingit ad summam lxxvj<sup>li</sup>. Sic remanet clare pro boscis cli<sup>li</sup>. vj'.

"Presentant insuper juratores pred.' quòd est quidam annuat.' redd.' sive feod.' octo librarum et viginti denariorum exeuntium de domo de *Assheridge* pred.' solubil.' *Johanni Norres* armiger, durante vita sua per concess.' illustrissimi nuper regis Henrici octavi, viz. xl'. annuat.' pro custod.' boscorum in *Assheridge*, et vj<sup>li</sup>. xx<sup>d</sup>. annuat.' pro custod.' domus ibidem.

"Presentant insuper quòd est quedam quarrea lapidum apud *Totternhall* infra Com.' Bedf.' pertinen.' dicte domui de *Assheridge*, que nunquam arrentat.' fuit, eo quòd supponitur esse aut parvi aut nullius valoris.

"Insuper dicunt super sacramentum suum, quòd domus mancionalis de *Assheridge* ac omnia structur.' domus, et edific.' infra scitum, circuitum, et precinctum, dicte domus; ac plumbum, ferreum, maeremium, later.' tegule, lapides, vitreum, le paning tyle, et omnia alia materia eorundem, si venderentur, valent, ut particularitèr inferius specificatur.

"Imprimis est quoddam templum sive ecclesia ibidem, cuius inferior pars vocatur *the body of the Church*, continens in longitudine quinquaginta unum pedes et in latitudine triginta duos pedes: Una Capella vocata *St. Jones Chappell* continens in longitudine quinquaginta unum pedes et in latitudine viginti unum pedes: Una Capella vocata *Our Lady Chappell* continens in longitudine quinquaginta unum pedes et in latitudine viginti unum pedes: Australis insula dicti templi vocata *le South Ile* continens in longitudine viginti sex pedes et in latitudine triginta duos pedes: Borialis insula vocata *le North Ile* continens in longitudine xxvj pedes et in latitudine xxxij pedes: *Cancell* ejusdem ecclesie continens in longitudine octoginta et unum pedes et in latitudine xxxij pedes: Et *le steple* dicte ecclesie continens qualibet via triginta pedes. Quod quidem templum sive ecclesia cum membris suis predictis plumbo coopertum est, cuius maxima pars est admodum liquida et in multis locis nuper emendata cum le soder, et in diversis aliis locis opus habet <sup>d</sup> emendari."

"Est quoddam <sup>e</sup> *Claustrum* ibidem plumbo coopertum, cuius Occidentale latus continet in longitudine nonaginta pedes et in latitudine decem pedes: Australe latus dicti Claustri continet in longitudine xxiiij pedes et in latitudine novem pedes: Boriale latus dicti Claustri continet in longitudine quadraginta duos pedes et in latitudine novem pedes.

"Presentant insuper super sacramentum suum, quòd sunt diversa alia loca plumbo cooperta, prout particulariter sequuntur, viz. Unus locus vocatus *the Sextrye* continens in longitudine triginta tres pedes et in latitudine viginti duos pedes: Unus locus vocatus *the plate howse* continens in longitudine octodecem pedes et octo polices, et in latitudine undecem pedes: Unus locus vocatus *the dorter howse*, continens in longitudine centum et octo pedes et in latitudine xxxiiij pedes: Unus locus vocatus *the Librarye*, continens in longitudine triginta tres pedes et in latitudine viginti tres pedes et dimid.' Unus locus vocatus *the howse of Evidence*, continens in longitudine decem pedes et in latitudine octo pedes: Una aula vocata *the Maynes hall*, cum certis locis eidem annexis, continens in longitudine sexaginta quatuor pedes et in latitudine viginti quatuor pedes: Una magna camera vocata *the greate Chamber*, continens in longitudine quadraginta sex pedes et in latitudine viginti sex pedes:

<sup>d</sup> Recapitulation of the measurement of the Conventual Church.

	Length.	Breadth.
The Body of the Church	51 feet	32 feet.
St. John's Chapel	51 feet	21 feet.
Our Lady Chapel	51 feet	21 feet.
The South aisle	26 feet	32 feet.
The North aisle	26 feet	32 feet.
The Chancel	81 feet	32 feet.
The Steeple	30 feet each way.	

I remember an old drawing, in water colours, of *Ashridge*, in which the Church made the most conspicuous part of it; which has been lost since the College was pulled down in 1800.

<sup>e</sup> The Western side of this Cloister was probably the *ambulatory* or *paradise* of the Monks. See Du Cange in V. PARADISUS, and Warton's Hist. of Eng. Poetry, vol. i. p. 453.

Measurement of the sides of this Cloister, as recited in the Inquisition.

	Length.	Breadth.
Western side	90 feet	10 feet.
South side	24 feet	9 feet.
North side	42 feet	9 feet.

The *dorter howse* or *dormitory* appears to have measured 108 feet in length, and 34 feet in breadth.



Una camera vocata *the pryvé Chamber*, continens in longitudine viginti octo pedes et in latitudine octodecem pedes: Una capella vocata *the Lordes Chappell* continens in longitudine viginti pedes et in latitudine decem pedes: Una magna aula vocata *the greate Hall*, continens in longitudine sexaginta sex pedes et in latitudine viginti octo pedes: Unus locus cognitus per nomen de *Mr. Chamberlens lodging* vocatus *the Tower*, continens utraque via triginta pedes, et *le stayers* ducentes ad dictum *le Towre*, continentes utraque via decem pedes: Una camera vocata *the gromes Chamber*, continens in longitudine xv pedes et in latitudine novem pedes: Quedam camera vocata *the Bed Chamber*, continens in longitudine xlvij pedes et in latitudine viginti quatuor pedes: Quedam capella adiungens dicte camere vocat.<sup>f</sup> *le Bed-chamber*, continens in longitudine octodecem pedes et in latitudine quatuordecem pedes et dimid.<sup>g</sup> Unus locus vocatus *the Taylery*, continens in longitudine quatuordecem pedes et in latitudine duodecem pedes: Unus locus vocatus *the Chapman's parlour*, continens qualibet via xv pedes. Que omnia loca, claustra, camere, aule, et cetera edificia supra specificata, plumbo cooperiuntur et continent ut <sup>f</sup> supra.—

“*Presentant* insuper Juratores super sacramentum suum, quòd lapides, ferrum, le seeling, maieremium, vitreum, le pavingtyle, ostia, et fenestra Ecclesie predictæ cum membris suis, si diruantur et evellantur, valent vendi cli℥. Claustrum à quodam loco vocato *the Gromes Chamber* usque *le Sextre* cum omnia materia eiusdem valet vendi iij℥. Item *le Sextre* edificat.<sup>h</sup> super Claustrum australiter cum omni materia eiusdem valet vendi iij℥. Item *le Dortery* et quedam domus vocata *the howse of Evidence* cum omni materia earundem valet vendi l℥. Item quedam aula vocata *the Maynes hall* cum omni materia eiusdem valet vendi vij℥. Item magna aula ibidem vocata *the greate hall* cum omni materia eiusdem valet vendi xxx℥. Item *le Librarye* cum quadam domo vocata *the Chapter-howse* subtus dict.<sup>i</sup> *le Library* cum omni materia earundem valent vendi vij℥. x<sup>h</sup>. Item quidam locus vocatus *the gromes Chamber* supra Claustrum cum omni materia eiusdem valet vendi xxxij<sup>h</sup>. iij<sup>h</sup>. Item magna camera ibidem vocata *the greate Chamber* supra quod est camera vocata *the Chamber of presens*, materia earundem camerarum voc.<sup>i</sup> *the greate Chamber* et *the Chamber of presens* valet vendi xx℥. Item quedam camera vocata *the Bed chamber* supra quam est *le ffermery* cum duabus Capellis adiungen<sup>i</sup> cum omni materia eiusdem valet vendi x℥. Item quedam camera vocata *the pryve Chamber* subtus quod est quedam Capella, que Capella et Camera predict.<sup>i</sup> cum materia earundem valent vendi vj℥. Item quidam locus vocatus *the Taylery gate* cum omni materia eiusdem valet vendi xl<sup>h</sup>.

“*Presentant* insuper Juratores, quòd sunt diversa domus et edificia, vocata *the owtehowses*, que valent vendi ut particulariter inferius sequitur. Imprimis quedam domus vocata *le Deyrey* cum una veteri domo eidem adiungen.<sup>i</sup> vocata *a cartehowse* valet vendi c<sup>h</sup>. Item Capella extra portam ibidem et domus vocata *the hunters Lodge* valet vendi xl<sup>h</sup>. Item domus vocata *the porters Lodge* valet vendi x℥. Item quoddam stabulum ibidem valet vendi vij℥. vj<sup>h</sup>. vij<sup>h</sup>. Item certa domus vocata *the plommery howse* et *le chaundry howse* valet vendi iij℥. Item unum horreum ibidem valet vendi xx℥. Item certa domus vocata *the Bayliffs chamber* valet vendi vij℥. Item unum columbarium valet vendi iij℥. vj<sup>h</sup>. vij<sup>h</sup>. Item domus vocata *the well howse* cum appendicibus valet vendi vij℥. Item certa domus vocata *le Boyling-howse* et *ffyshhowse* cum una camera eisdem adiungen.<sup>i</sup> valet vendi vj℥. vij<sup>h</sup>. iij<sup>h</sup>. Item una domus vocata *the drye Larder* cum duabus cameris <sup>g</sup>—eorundem valet vendi l<sup>h</sup>. Item una parva camera adiungen.<sup>i</sup> dict.<sup>i</sup> *le dry larder* valet vendi xxx<sup>h</sup>. Item coquina ibidem vocata *the kechin* valet vendi lxxvj<sup>h</sup>. vij<sup>h</sup>. Item quedam domus vocata *Callys* valet vendi cvj<sup>h</sup>. vij<sup>h</sup>. Item quedam domus vocata <sup>h</sup> *Copthall* cum diversis cameris eidem adiungen.<sup>i</sup> valet vendi vij℥. x<sup>h</sup>. Item parva domus super murum ex australi latere Ecclesie valet vendi xxvj<sup>h</sup>. vii<sup>h</sup>. Item quedam vetusta domus vocata *the Tower* valet vendi lxxvj<sup>h</sup>. vij<sup>h</sup>. Item quidam murus lapideus ducens circa domum de *Assheridge* predicta cum tegulis supra eundem valet vendi xij℥. Item due camere infra *le Meynes hall* valet vendi xl<sup>h</sup>.

<sup>f</sup> After *supra*, in the Inquisition, the lead is reported in many parts damaged; and blanks in two lines are left for the value of it.

<sup>g</sup> The word, here wanting, is nearly obliterated in the Inquisition.

<sup>h</sup> I think the word is *Copthall*, but it is not quite clear.



"*Valor omnium dictorum domorum et edificiorum (ultra <sup>1</sup>plumbum) attingit ad summam ccclxiiij. l. xiiij. iij<sup>d</sup>. In cujus rei testimonium, etc.*"

It is probable, that soon after this Inquisition had been taken, the Conventual Church was demolished. In it had been deposited the bodies of many eminent persons, besides those of the founder and of bishop Cantelupe, as I <sup>k</sup> have already noticed. Browne Willis has enumerated those also of Sir Robert Whittingham, Lord of Penley and Salden, in 1452; of Sir Thomas Brian, Lord Chief Justice, in 1500; of Sir Thomas Denham, Lord of Eythorp, in 1519; and of Sir John Denham, his son, in 1533. To the memory of these persons, and of several others, many sumptuous tombs<sup>1</sup> are believed to have been erected. But of such no record remains.

Whatever injury this venerable house had sustained, during the reign of Elizabeth; Lord Ellesmere seems to have been determined, very soon after he had acquired it, to repair and beautify it. There remain, among the Ashridge evidences, "the names of such as did gratefie my Lorde Chancellor with carriage" of timber and stone in 1604; among whom is one of the commissioners directed to make the Inquisition which we have just seen, Sir Edmund Ashfield. There are also preserved, in the Chancellor's own hand-writing, "A remembrance for more buylding & reparacons at Ashridge;" and, in the respective hand-writings of several tradesmen, "estimates of all the charges for the newe byldinge, bothe for all manner of stuffe and workmanship, as also for carriages." These designs, I should suppose, were completed in 1607. For there are also preserved minute and curious statements of furniture bought and exchanged for Ashridge, in that year particularly, more copious also than in preceding and succeeding years; which seem to imply, by the variety, splendour, and costliness of the materials detailed in them, that the house had been rendered more fit for the residence of its noble owner. His disbursements also for more than half of the year 1607, and part of 1608, are entitled "Disbursed for reparations for Ashridge, and caryages vnto Ashridge of the furnytur." The statement of furniture fills twelve pages of the folio size, from which I will select some articles as serving to exhibit the taste of this kind at the beginning of the seventeenth century.

<p>"For two suytes of tapistrye hanginges for the purple bedchamber and the withdrawinge chamber to yt; the one of 7 peeces, (storye of Alexander,) and the other, (storye of Elyas,) 5 peeces; both 5 sticks deepe a peece; at severall rates, <math>\text{£}</math> bill . . . . .</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">ii. s. cxxxij. xv.</p>
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<p>"For canvas and cord to packe them in, and portage of them unto Ashridge, and for tenter hookes, etc. . . . .</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">s. d. xxxvij. ij.</p>
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<p>"For Sir Tho. Egerton his daughters, 15. May, 1607. [<i>These were the orphan daughters of the Chancellor's eldest son Sir Thomas Egerton, who died at Dublin Castle in 1599.</i>] For two bedds of blew and whyte carroll, furnished with feather bedds, and bouldsters, pillowes, mattresses, matts, 4 kersey stooles, and a bed furnished for the chambermayd, <math>\text{£}</math> bill . . . .</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">ii. s. xxv. xvj.</p>
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<p>"For the la: Frauncis's Nurserie, 22. May, 1607. [<i>This lady Frances was the wife of the Chancellor's eldest surviving son, Sir John Egerton.</i>] For three bedds of myngle colerd caroll, furnished with feather bedds and bouldsters, pillowes, matts, mattresses, and 7 kersey stooles, <math>\text{£}</math> bill . . . . .</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">ii. s. xxxij. vj.</p>
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<p>"Payd to Mr. Markham a silkeman for gold and silver cawld fringe, and purple silke fringe, for the table carpet and cupboard carpet of purple and whyte damaske <math>\text{£}</math> bill . . . . .</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">ii. s. iij. xj.</p>
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<sup>1</sup> See the note <sup>f</sup> in the preceding page.

<sup>k</sup> Sect. I. p. 10.

<sup>1</sup> Browne Willis's MSS.



" Payd to Rees Ellison the upholster for stuffe and workmanship about the purple, gold, and silver bed, a skreene, one highe chayre, two high stooles, two lowe stooles and a footestoole, and two longe quisheons, with buccrome, curten rodde, and ringes for the bed, sey for the counterpoynte, ticke, neles, and feathers for the quisheons, chayre, and stooles; and makeinge all this furniture, being laced, and cases of bayes for them <i>per</i> bill. . . .	li. xij. s. x.
" Payd also to the upholster for stuffe and workmanship for the purple and silver furnytur, beinge, a high chayre, three high stooles, two low stooles and a footestoole, and four longe quisheons, viz. red leather, etc. . . . .	li. vj. s. xvj.
" Chappell. 7 longe quisheons of blacke wrought velvet, two low stooles suitable, 6 tapistrie quisheons. Payd to Mr. Markham a silkeman for tawnye stringes and tassells for the longe quisheons and stooles of blacke wrought velvet for the Chappell	s. lix.
" For tickes for the baggs of the 7 long quisheons and two low stooles, etc. and makeinge of the same . . . . .	li. v. s. xviij.
" For 6 tapistrie quisheons, fild with feathers . . . . .	li. iij.
" For the Great Chamber. Payd for 8 peeces of hanginges, 5 Flemish ells and half depe, storie Scipio and Hannyball, cont. in the whole 247 Flemish ells and half, at 10 <sup>s</sup> . . . . .	li. cxxxij. s. xv.
" For 40 elns of holland for 4 payre of sheets . . . . .	li. v.
" Delivered to the ladye Frauncis, 23d. March 1607, to buy 36 yards of satten at 15 <sup>s</sup> the yard, in exchaunge of the bezar cloth of silver and skye-color cloth of silver for the longe gallery furnytur the somme of . . . . .	li. xxvij.
" For a <sup>m</sup> handbell for the Chappell . . . . .	s. viij.
" For vj. black Jackes for the Buttry, two great and 4 smale . . . . .	vij. d. vj.

The house continued, no doubt, to exhibit a splendour worthy of the owner, till the din of the civil war reached this peaceable spot. The loyalty of the Earl of Bridgewater then experienced the temporary resentment of the rebels, in the plunder of his property and in the injury done to his mansion. In <sup>n</sup> June 1643 the soldiers of the Parliament began to kill his deer. On the tenth of that month, they took away arms and ammunition, horses, carts, and corn; and set guards about the house all night; and on the sixteenth, notwithstanding two Orders of the Lords in Parliament prohibiting such proceedings at Ashridge, they repeated their predatory visit; their commander, Captain Washington, informing Thomas Williams, the trusty and sensible servant of the Earl, that "he <sup>o</sup> was come by command from my lord Generall to seize on all the oates, and pease, and horsemeat;" and another Captain adding further threats. On that day, part of his lordship's plate was also added to their booty. On

<sup>m</sup> The *hand-bell* was formerly a common church-utensil; a name, perhaps, of the little bell rung before the host. Thus in the return of bells, made in 1552, there were at Ashby de la Zouch "five bells and a *hand-bell*." And at Hathorne, "three bells and two *hand-bells*." B. Willis, *Mitred Abbies*, vol. ii. App.

<sup>n</sup> From documents and letters, indorsed, among the Ashridge evidences, *Concerning the destruction made by the Parliament Army at Ashridge.*

<sup>o</sup> From Mr. Williams's letters to the Earl.



the next day, the Earl of Bridgewater wrote to the Earl of Clare, thanking him for procuring the "noble Order of the Lords upon his Petition preferred to them;" and gave a relation, at the same time, of what the rebels had done at Ashridge; adding, that on the Sunday they went to the Parish Church of Little Gaddesden, where his late wife was interred, and broke open the vault, (for what purpose he could not imagine,) in which she and one of her daughters were laid. The Earl's Petition stated, "p that Captain Washington, Captain Kemsey, and Captain Burre, with their soldiers, entered into his Parke and House at Ashridge, detained his servants prisoners, beat down the ceilings, broke open and hewed down all the doors in the house, notwithstanding they had been set open to them, searched his evidence rooms, studies, and closets, took away plate and arms, besides what household stuff he knows not, etc." On the eighteenth, the plunder was q continued. On the 27th there was an Order of Parliament for witnesses to be examined in respect to abuses committed by Captain Washington and others. It may be curious to remark, that on the 18th the rebels had received Warrants for a visit of plunder from Lord Essex, and Sir Samuel Luke, the Hudibras, as is generally supposed, of Butler. The Earl of Bridgewater probably purchased the quiet possession of his mansion soon afterwards; for I find no further details of assault.

If the Earl had been acquainted with a receipt, the efficacy of which is very gravely asserted by Aubrey, here was a fine opportunity to have tried it, and at the same time to have shewn the value of the Library at Ashridge in having possessed a manuscript containing such choice intelligence! He might have dissipated the evil spirits of his enemies in the most easy and quiet manner; but alas! he knew not of the treasure which the College enjoyed! "At Ashridge in Buckinghamshire," says the learned Aubrey, who, however, was occasionally somewhat fanciful; "At Ashridge was a Monastery, (now in the possession of the Earl of Bridgewater,) where are excellent good old Paintings still to be seen. In this Monastery was found an old Manuscript, intituled 'Johannes de Rupescissâ, since printed, (or part of it,) a chymical book, wherein are many Receipts; among others, To free a house, haunted with evil spirits, by fumes: Mr. Marsh had it, and did cure houses, so haunted, by it!"

We are now to return to the description of the house.

At the upper end of the Hall was a door, through which a passage led to several rooms, on the left of it, greatly injured by the damp, and absolutely uninhabitable long before the late duke of Bridgewater had resolved on the demolition of the College. It is a just remark, that while these rooms were in good repair, there must have been in them a gloom peculiarly soothing to romantic imaginations.

This passage also led to the Stair-case, which was hung with old portraits, neglected and decayed, as an ingenious visitor long since observed. Hence was the opening into the Gallery, which had two sides, over two sides of the quadrangular Cloister. Of these one was called the Billiard Gallery, and contained the following arms in the windows; most of which are preserved, and form part of the ornaments in the Ashridge of our own time.

1. The Royal arms, repeatedly.
2. Carey, with 16 quarterings.
3. Gray of Wilton, with its quarterings, impaling Gray of Ruthin, quartering (as usual) Hastings and Valence.
4. Cecil, with 6 quarterings.

p From the documents, ut supra.

q The deposition to this purpose is preserved.

r Aubrey's Miscellanies, 8vo. 1696. p. 136.

s "I know not," says an elegant critic, "that Aubrey is ever fantastical, except on the subjects of chemistry and ghosts. Nor do I remember that his veracity was ever impeached. His Monumenta Britannica is a very solid and rational work, and its judicious conjectures and observations have been approved and adopted by the best modern antiquaries." T. Warton, Note on Milton's Eleg. I. ver. 15.

t The Prophecies of this John de Rupescissâ are printed in Brown's Fasciculus Rerum Expetendarum et Fugiendarum,

fol. Lond. 1690. tom. 2. p. 493. And a character of the author is there prefixed, which, as given by different writers, represents him both as a man of learning and a trifler. "Nec amici nec inimici desunt Johanni de Rupescissâ, &c."

u Topographer, vol. ii. p. 146.

x Topographer, ut supra. This gentleman, as I have been informed, was the late Rev. Stebbing Shaw, the learned, the elegant, and indefatigable historian of Staffordshire. A descendant of the Lord Chancellor Ellesmere, of great taste and abilities, has been also thought to have been the Topographer.

y See also Topograph. ut supr.



5. Egerton and Basset of Blore, quarterly, both within one bordure engrailed, sable, which was the coat Lord Chancellor Ellesmere always used, as the seals on his letters, the windows in Lincoln's Inn, and the family-pedigrees shew. This coat was often repeated in these windows.

6. Dudley, with its quarterings, impaling Russel, date 1568.

7. Powlett, with the 16 following quarterings, impaling Howard, and its quarterings, date 1578.

1. Powlett	9. St. John
2. Credy	10. Port
3. Delamar	11. Aurevall
4. Hussey	12. Hay
5. Poynings	13. Ross
6. Rokesley	14. Skelton
7. Keriol or Criol	15. Irby
8. Crevequer	16. Delamar.

This Gallery might also be reckoned a picture-gallery, as well as the other part called the Cedar Gallery, to which it joined; many portraits having once adorned their walls. What remained, when the writer of these pages visited the College in 1800, were almost irreparably injured by time. There were mutilated pictures without frames, and mouldering frames without pictures. Some portraits, however, were preserved; most of which are now at Cleveland House.

The other two sides, over those of the Cloister, were divided into suites of rooms; of which the most distinguished was that called queen Elizabeth's apartment, which possessed an ancient bed, said not only to have belonged to her, but to have been most of it of her work. In this room there was also a kind of toilet remaining. Among other curious articles two pair of sumptuous shoes remained, which probably belonged to Elizabeth. They are now in the possession of the Earl of Bridgewater.

Most of the bed-rooms were hung with old tapestry; and we see, in the Lord Chancellor's account of <sup>2</sup> furniture, what were some of the subjects which the tapestry exhibited. There was, in a small passage-room, a splendid genealogical tree of the family, with portraits and arms; and with the paternal coat at the bottom, displaying 84 quarterings; which is also in the possession of the present Earl of Bridgewater. A small Chapel was entered from the Cloisters; a neat, but not an ancient structure. It appears to have been built in 1699; for there is, among the Ashridge Manuscripts now belonging to Lord Stafford, "A Sermon preached at the opening of the new Chapell at Ashridge, Aug. 27, 1699, by George Burghope;" a divine of great merit, and the chaplain of the family.

The House was entirely surrounded by walls, within which was a Garden, displaying, though much neglected and grown wild, specimens in abundance of that absurd taste, to which, in the first James's reign, and long afterwards, gardening was carried. Plans of the strangest invention, the meander, and the maze, were visible, though in ruins. The Garden was once, no doubt, a counterpart to that of Eden, so minutely pourtrayed by a <sup>3</sup> poet in the first Earl of Bridgewater's time, in which Adam, like a country-gentleman of that period, is described thus recreating himself:

" Musing, anon through *crooked walks* he wanders,  
*Round-winding rings*, and intricate meanders,  
 False-guiding *paths*, doubtful beguiling *strays*,  
 And right-wrong errors of an *endless maze*;  
 Not simply hedged with a single border  
 Of rosemary, *cut-out with curious order*,  
 In satyrs, centaurs, whales, &c."

Indeed, the *maze* at Ashridge was considered, nearly a century after this poetical horticulture

<sup>2</sup> See before, pp. 89, 91.

<sup>3</sup> Joshua Sylvester, from whose complete translation of the

French Du Bartas, which he published in 1621, the following lines are taken.



was exhibited, as a fit abode for Eve, as the inspirer of poetry and love, and, as was before observed, a rival of Eden! For thus the fair poetical historian of Ashridge has described it:

“ When the delightful Garden past my view,  
Surely it might with Eden's well compare,  
And Eve in innocence be mistress there :  
She'd want no walks nor solitary bowers,  
But live as pleas'd as then, besett with flowers :  
Yes, and more pleas'd by far, if it can be ;  
No serpents there, nor yet forbidden tree :  
*The very maze itselſe theſe truths might prove,*  
*Since it inſpires with poetry and love !* }  
A bliſs not much unlike the joys above :  
So much inſpires, you'd think the tuneful Nine  
Had ſet each branch, whiſt Cupid drew the line !”

So much for the Garden. But, as connected with the subject, the rural retirement, at about two miles distance from the College, may here be mentioned. This romantic spot, is in a beautiful valley, having on one side the fine-turfed hills which lead towards Ivinghoe; and there are yet the remains, undoubtedly, of ornamental cultivation having been here employed.

The bay-windows in front of the House were occupied on one side by a very large and noble room, which was entered out of the gallery; on the other by the Library, which consisted of three rooms, known by the distinctions of the great Library, the lesser Library, and the little Closet. The two latter were small rooms. But the first was a large and well-proportioned apartment, yet injudiciously contrived, by doors resembling a pannelled wainscot throughout, to conceal the literary treasures within it. The case was much the same in one of the other apartments. It happened, that many books were irreparably injured, and many wholly perished, in consequence of such enclosure, by the unnoticed ravages of damp and vermin. Of late years, the Library was not permitted to be shewn to strangers; but I am unable to state the reason of this prohibition. The books, which were brought from this Library to his Grace's house in London, became, after his death, by bequest, the property of his nephew, the present Marquis of Stafford; to whose second son, Lord Francis Egerton, they are to descend. In curious English literature more especially, of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, these books may defy competition. Of very great value also are the manuscript collections of Lord Chancellor Ellesmere, and some of the old conventual treasures, which accompanied them.

And now, having walked over the ground,

—————“<sup>b</sup> where mus'd of old  
The cloister'd brothers ;” ———  
“<sup>c</sup> Where ancient Art her dædal fancies play'd  
In the quaint mazes of the crisped roof ;  
In mellow glooms the speaking pane array'd,  
And rang'd the cluster'd column, massy proof ;  
Where Learning, guarded from a barbarous age,  
Hover'd awhile, nor dar'd attempt the day ;  
But patient trac'd upon the pictur'd page  
The holy legend, or heroic lay :”

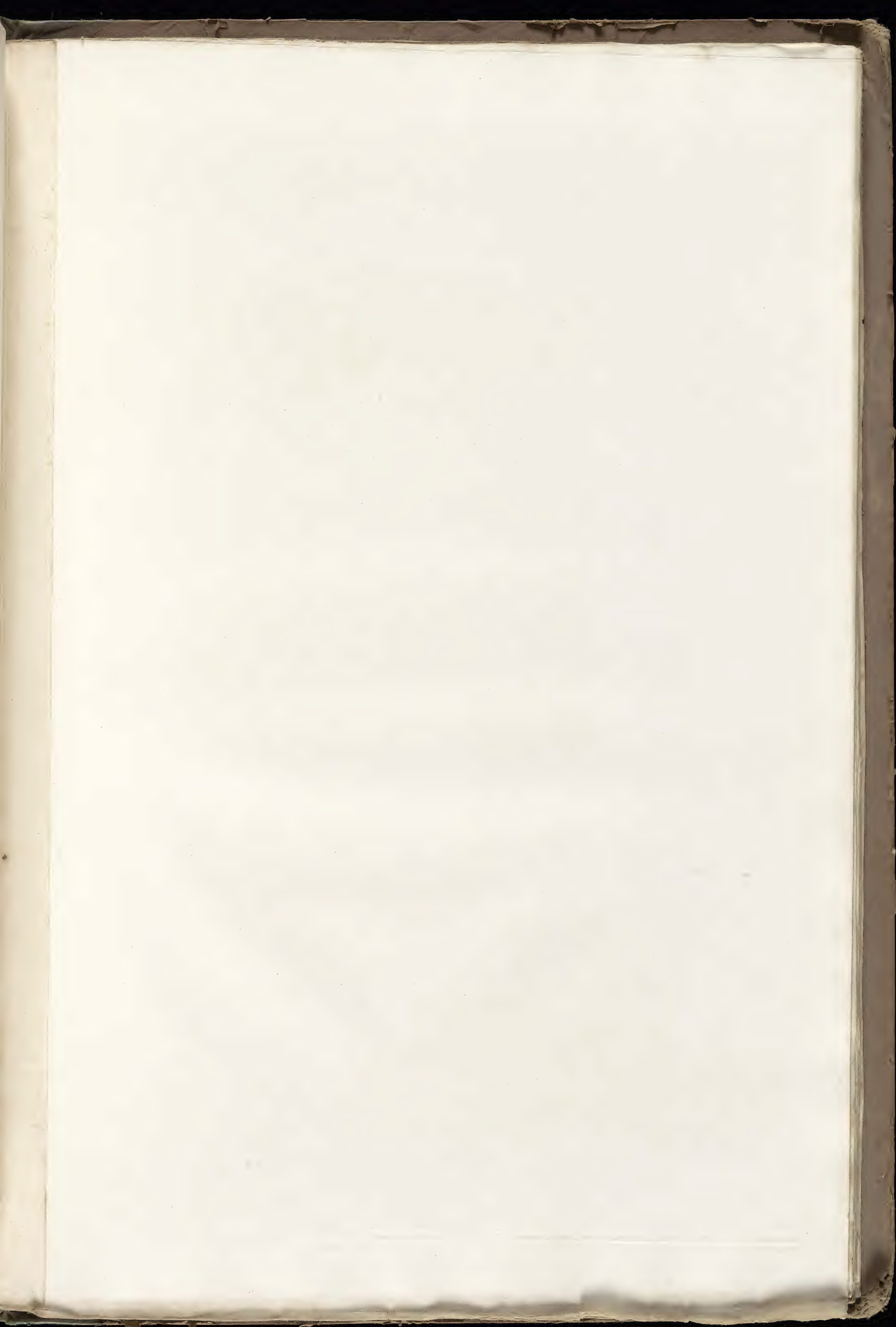
having, I say, faithfully recalled to memory those scenes and many other circumstances of the ancient pile, I banish from the mind the beguiling images of elder times in adverting to the present state of Ashridge :

“ FROM THE DEMOLISH'D DOME NEW GLORIES RISE !”

<sup>b</sup> T. Warton's Pleasures of Melancholy, ver. 38.

<sup>c</sup> Id. Ode written at Vale Royal Abbey, ver. 61.







*Gothic Barn.*



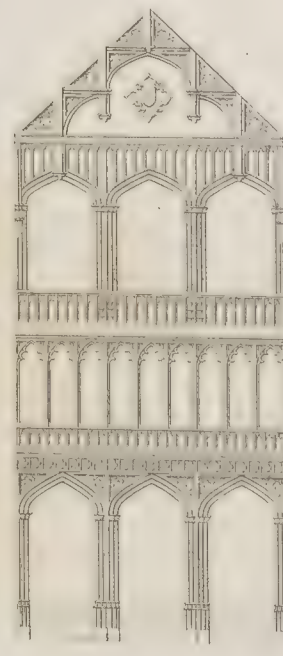
*Section of Hall and Staircase.*



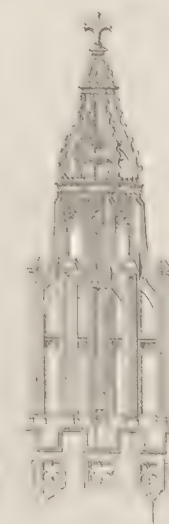
*Entrance Door.*



*Section of Hall.*



*Cross in the Garden.*



*Part of Conservatory.*

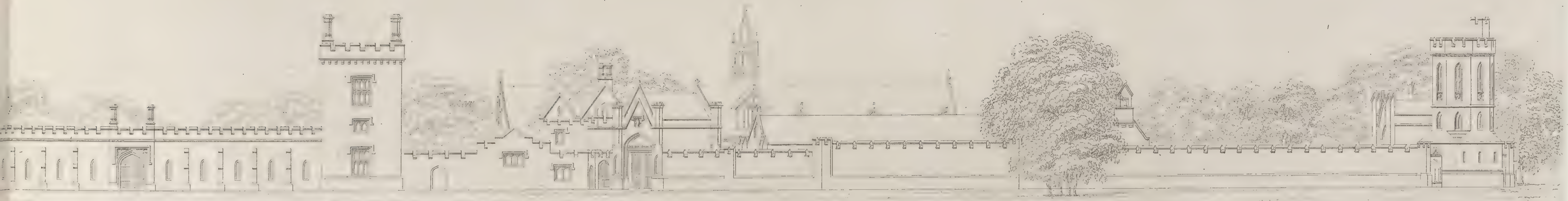




South Elevation.



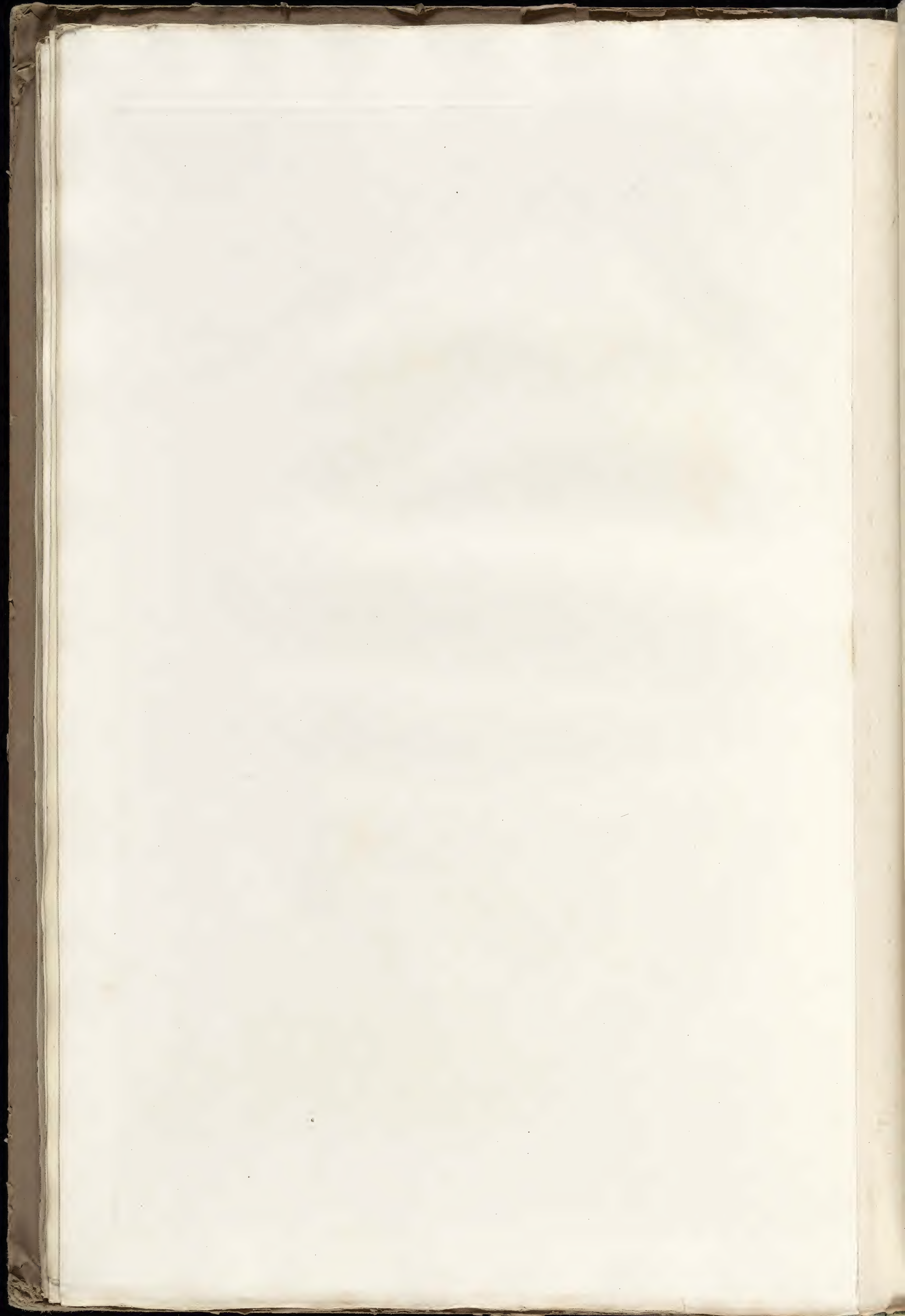
North Elevation.



East Elevation.









## SECT. VII.

OF THE PRESENT MANSION: APPROACH: EXTERNAL VIEW: DESCRIPTION OF THE  
INTERIOR: DOMESTICK OFFICES: GARDEN AND SHRUBBERY.

IF with the love and reverence of antiquity we have viewed, in the preceding chapters, the venerable and pleasing memorials of former times; in the present, we shall be delighted with the magnificence and splendour of our own days, displayed in the new edifice of *Ashridge*; in which, ancient architecture has been exquisitely copied, and successfully applied; and, in the interior decoration of which, modern elegance has supplied materials which cannot fail to gratify even the refinement of taste.

The present Mansion, situated on the confines of the Counties of *Hertford* and *Buckingham*, is about three miles distant from *Berkhampsted*, and five from *Hemel Hempsted*. By the latter and most frequented road it is distant from *London* about thirty miles.

Proceeding by *Water-End*, the APPROACH opens to the left by a gentle ascent; the little village church of *Nettleden*, beneath, appearing as if placed by art to encrease the beauty of the landscape; whilst the bold rising ground in the distance forms a pleasing contrast to the nearer and more humble features of nature. The road here, carried by an arch, crosses a deep ravine, which forms a communication from *Gaddesden*, and other neighbouring villages, with *Berkhampsted*.

An extensive scene now opens to the view; and, amidst the thick foliage of the distant trees, the battlements of the great tower of the Mansion, and the lofty spire of its Chapel, are disclosed. The picturesque description of Milton is now completely realized; and we recall to the imagination the stately buildings of the sixteenth century, of which towers and battlements, surrounded with foliage, were conspicuous marks, and of which several were remaining in their original state, when Milton penned his expressive lines:

“Straight mine eye hath caught new pleasures,  
“Whilst the landscape round it measures;  
“Towers and battlements it sees  
“Bosom'd high in tufted trees.”

Such indications of a palace or mansion, as Warton has observed, have a greater effect than a discovery of larger parts, or even a full display of the whole edifice. The embosomed battlements, and the spreading top of the tall grove, on which they reflect a reciprocal charm, still further interest the fancy from the combination; while just enough of the towering structure is shewn, to compose a picturesque association.

From this point the road gradually descends to a Lodge, the present southern boundary of the Park; winding along a valley embellished with the most stately forest trees, among which are thorns that still display a luxuriance of bloom, while their wrinkled limbs and knotted joints testify that they have existed for ages. Here also the lover of rural variety will be entertained with every circumstance of beauty which he can expect from diversified nature, enlivened by numerous herds of deer browsing on the pasturage around. Nor will the home-farm, concealed by the woods on the high ground to the right, be found undeserving the notice of those who attend to the humbler, though not less useful, pursuits of rural economy.

Advancing about a mile, and leaving the valley which extends through magnificent forest scenery to the northern boundary of the Park at *Ringshall*, the road gently ascends through a grove of lofty beech trees; and, diverging to the left, presents to the view the north front of the Mansion itself.



At the point, where you turn to the left to approach the Mansion, this road passes to the right through a most beautiful avenue; whence there is a road to the village of *Little Gaddesden*; and, on the left of this, another road leads to a new Lodge at the village of *Ringshall*, where three roads meet; of which the principal passes on to *Dunstable*; and, in its way to that place, has been carried with gentle declivity, and great skill, down the side of a steep hill; in descending which, its several windings present the different views of the plain below with great picturesque effect. From the Mansion itself two other roads diverge; the one leading through *Aldbury* to *Aylesbury*, to the West; and the other to *Berkhampsted*, to the South; and upon each of these roads a neat Lodge is placed at the extremity of the Park.

By these and other similar communications, made at the expence and under the direction of the Earl of BRIDGEWATER, this neighbourhood has been most essentially benefited.

Before we enter upon the description of the present Mansion, it may be right to premise, that it is built nearly upon the spot on which the ancient house stood; belonging to which no room, retaining a roof, remained, when the Earl of BRIDGEWATER came into possession of the estate. There were indeed remaining <sup>a</sup> two Lodges; one the entrance gateway to the house; the other, to the stable yard; and the engine-house, which covered a well 275 feet deep. Of the ancient offices nothing useful was left, except the <sup>b</sup> Conventual barn, a stable, and a cellar.

#### EXTERNAL VIEW.

The north front of the present Mansion is bounded on the East by a line of majestick lime trees, and on the West by an equally fine line of stately elms; and includes, from the eastern to the western tower, a length of above one thousand feet; presenting to the eye a combination and variety of towers and battlements, among which, pre-eminently rising to the height of one hundred and forty-two feet, is the spire of the Chapel.

The view of the north front, given in this History, is taken from a point to the north-west of the house.

The character of the building is that of a battlemented Mansion, in which are retained a few traces of the earlier or castellated modes of security; with which are united, as in days of old, ornaments of a more delicate construction, and which were particularly applied to parts of a building intended for religious purposes.

On advancing to the entrance-porch, it will be noticed, that the situation has been principally fixed by the two lengthened avenues, which had long before been formed, the one to the north, the other to the north-west; to which the present Earl of BRIDGEWATER has most judiciously added a third, to the north-east; and thereby has materially contributed to the grandeur of the scene.

#### INTERIOR OF THE HOUSE.

In describing the internal parts of the house, it is necessary to premise, that the rooms and galleries retain in a great degree the Gothick character. The porch is formed by a projecting arch, with bold mouldings and octagonal towers at each angle; the front decorated with foliated spandrils, and open battlements, with shields, rosets, and portcullises. Above the porch rises a double window, twenty-one feet high. The interior window, at three feet distance, is filled with squares of plate glass; the exterior is composed of stained glass. Above the window, on the outside, are carved amidst the stone tracery the arms of the present Earl and Countess of BRIDGEWATER. Within the porch are folding oak doors, with a wicket for use during inclement weather; and immediately opening to the hall of entrance, are oak doors, having the upper pannels filled with plate glass.

<sup>a</sup> See the preceding History for an account of the first of these two Lodges, p. 57.

<sup>b</sup> Of these a further account will be found in the present section.





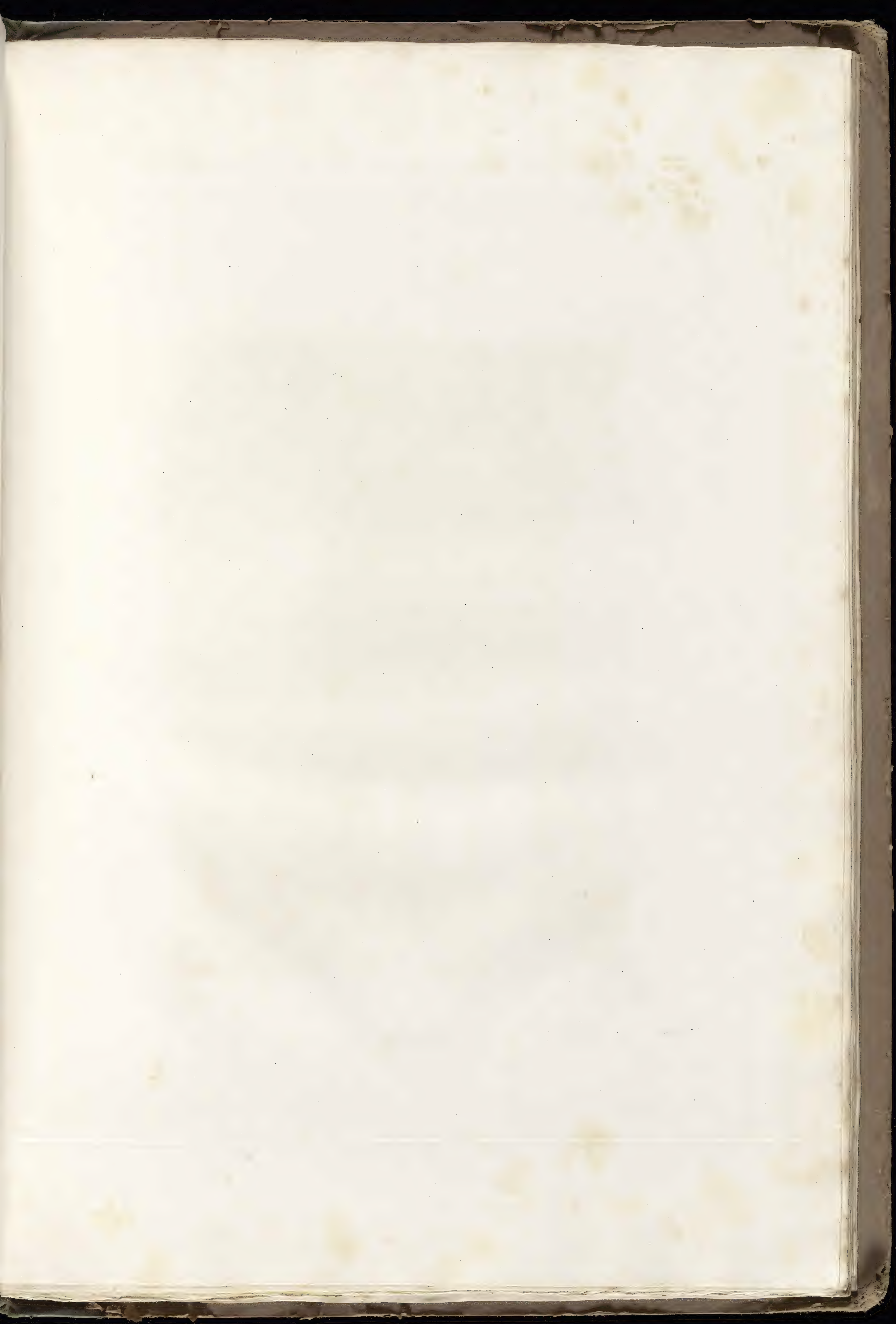
NORTH FRONT OF ASHRIDGE.

Printed by W. L. L.













*Drawn by F. Mackenzie.*

*Engraved by J. LaRue.*

HALL, ASHRIDGE.









*Drawn by F. Mackenzie.*

*Engraved by J. B. B.*

STAIRCASE, ASHRIDGE.



## HALL OF ENTRANCE.

On entering the hall, which is surrounded by a line of armorial bearings, the eye is particularly directed to the oak roof of ancient Gothick form, and to objects which are discovered in a partial and picturesque manner through the rich skreen-work, and open galleries, more directly in sight. The armorial bearings of King HENRY VII. form the centre compartment; from the dexter and sinister sides of which run the paternal and maternal line, tracing the ancestors of the EGERTON family, as stated in Appendix, No. III.

On the corbels, supporting the roof, are the arms of Lord Chancellor ELLESMERE and his descendants down to the present Earl of BRIDGEWATER. Over the chimney-piece is placed an ancient portrait of this much honoured Chancellor, one of the ablest lawyers and most upright statesmen, which this country has produced; and, opposite to the chimney, is an heraldic table representing the genealogy of the house of EGERTON. On the right hand of the entrance is an inscription on a brass plate, which records the day on which the foundation stone of the building was laid by the Countess of BRIDGEWATER, viz. the 25th day of October, 1808; and also that of its first occupation, viz. the 11th day of October, 1814. The foundation stone was laid on the before-named day, as a token of respect to his late Majesty, GEORGE III., that being the day of his accession to the throne.

## GRAND STAIRCASE.

Passing onwards directly South, and ascending four steps under the double archways which sustain the galleries, the grand staircase presents itself, occupying a space of 38 feet square; of which the steps ascend upon the right hand in double flights, guarded by a railing, to a gallery leading to the bed-rooms surrounding the staircase, and opening thereto by three wide pointed arches on the East side. The walls of the staircase, which are of stone, are decorated with niches, corbels, and canopies; and brackets support a projecting gallery directly under twelve large windows lighting the whole space below. The ceiling is richly adorned; and in the centre is a wind-dial. We now look round indeed, as if inspecting the stately architecture which Spenser, nearly three centuries since, so minutely paints, *Faer. Qu. I. iv. 4.*

“ High lifted up were many lofty towers,  
 “ And goodly galleries far over laid,  
 “ Full of fair windows and delightful bowers;  
 “ And on the top a dial told the timely hours.”

The height of the space occupied by the staircase is ninety-five feet. On the first landing, placed on a corbel and under a canopy, is a statue of King EDWARD VI., whose connection with the *College of Ashridge* has been already noticed<sup>a</sup>. This statue is by WESTMACOTT, and is skilfully wrought in *Malta* stone. Amongst the foliage of the supporting corbel are inscribed in front, in golden letters, EDVARDUS VI., and on the sides surmounted with coronets are the initial letters of the present Earl and Countess of BRIDGEWATER, J. W. E. and C. C. A. E. Upon the flanks are the initials also, with professional symbols, of the sculptor and architect employed upon the work.

The statues, of which some now fill the niches above, and the rest designed, are those of founders and benefactors of the College of Ashridge, and of others connected with it.

1. <sup>a</sup> SENCHIA, wife of Richard, king of the Romans, and mother of the Founder.
2. <sup>f</sup> EDWARD the Black Prince.
3. <sup>g</sup> RICHARD, King of the Romans.
4. <sup>h</sup> The Earl of CORNWALL, Founder of the College.
5. <sup>i</sup> Richard de WATFORD, the first Rector of the College.

<sup>a</sup> See the preceding History, p. 28.

<sup>f</sup> Ibid. p. 16.

<sup>i</sup> Ibid. p. 14.

<sup>g</sup> Ibid. pp. 2, 14.

<sup>h</sup> Ibid.

<sup>i</sup> Ibid. p. 23.



- 6. \* Thomas DE CANTILUPE, Bishop of Hereford.
- 7. St. BENEDICT, the tutelary Saint of the College.
- 8. One of the Brethren of the College.

Over the chimney-piece, and opposite to the first ascent of the staircase, is a portrait of Henry de Grey, the last Duke of KENT, of that family; who was maternal grandfather of the present Earl of BRIDGEWATER. In the staircase hall there are also various carved table-frames of oak; some covered with oriental alabaster, and some with polished *Purbeck* marble slabs, which were formerly used as the gravestones of Brethren of the College. Of similar changes Gough, in his work on Sepulchral Monuments, has taken notice.

#### ANTE-ROOM AND DRAWING-ROOM.

Proceeding from the entrance in a direct line, folding doors of oak lead into an ante-room with windows opening to the South; and from this room, on the right and left, similar doors lead to the principal apartments.

In the centre of the Ante-room, on the left hand or eastward, these doors open at the end of a magnificent Drawing-room, fifty feet by thirty, exclusive of a large bow window, 19 by 7, and twenty feet four inches high. The walls of this room are hung with rich crimson damask of *British* manufacture, and the furniture is of the same material; the floor, dado, and dessus de portes, being of oak. The ceiling and coved cornice are partially gilt. Over the fire-place is a glass from the manufactory near *Prescot*, in Lancashire, the dimensions of which are 123 by 71½ inches. A table and various cabinets of rich buhl, and china jars of considerable size, contribute to the decoration of this apartment. The aspect is South; and the plate-glass windows open upon a terrace, whence, as well as from the room, a delightful view is presented over a beautiful lawn, and fine extent of hill and valley beyond.

In this room are hung two pictures painted by the late Mr. BIRD; the one representing the embarkation of the present KING OF FRANCE at *Dover*, and the other the debarkation at *Calais*. On the side next to the Library is one, by JONES, of *the Victory at Waterloo*. These will form a part of a series of pictures, all of which are to be the production of *British* artists, intended to represent some of the remarkable events which occurred at the close of the revolutionary war.

#### LIBRARY.

From the Drawing-room proceeding northward is the Library; which runs parallel with, and opens into, the Staircase Hall. This room is furnished with book cases of ebony and brass; above which are several portraits of the EGERTON family; the earliest of which are a portrait of Lord Chancellor ELLESMERE, and one of his interesting grand-daughters, the Lady *Alice* EGERTON, for whom the dramatick character of the Lady in MILTON's *inimitable Mask of Comus* was written, by whom it was performed, whose taste and skill in singing the poet has elegantly named "divine enchanting ravishment," and to whose personal beauty he alludes in the "vermeil-tinctured lip, the love-darting eyes, and tresses like the morn." Over the chimney-piece, which is of black marble inlaid with brass, hangs a three-quarter length portrait of the present Earl of BRIDGEWATER, painted by OWEN. The other portraits in this room are those of *Sophia*, Duchess of KENT; Lady *Elizabeth Ariana* EGERTON; Lady *Amelia* HUME; Lady LONG; *John*, second Earl of BRIDGEWATER; *John*, third Earl of BRIDGEWATER; *John Egerton*, Lord Bishop of DURHAM; and Sir *Abraham* HUME.

The room is furnished with crimson damask and ebony. It is lighted from the East by five large casements, opening to an arcade richly groined; and thence, through five open arches,

\* See the preceding History, p. 10.





SENCHIA.  
WIFE OF RICHARD, EARL OF CORNWALL.

Drawn on Stone by RICHARD LANE, from the Original Drawing by HENRY CORBOULD  
Printed by G. H. Mansel.









R. WESTMACOTT R.A. SCULPTOR.

RICHARD, EARL OF CORNWALL,  
KING OF THE ROMANS.

Drawn on Stone by RICHARD LANE, from the Original Drawing by HENRY CORBOULD.  
Printed by C. Hullmandel.









R. WESTMACOTT, R.A. SCULPTOR.

EDWARD THE BLACK PRINCE.  
PATRON & BENEFactor TO THE COLLEGE OF ASHRIDGE

Drawn on Stone by RICHARD LANE from the Original Drawing by HENRY CORBOULD.  
Printed by G. Bulmer.









A. WESTMACOTT, R.A. SCULPTOR.

EDMUND SON OF RICHARD, EARL OF CORNWALL,  
FOUNDER OF THE COLLEGE OF ASHRIDGE.

Drawn on Stone by RICHARD LANE, from the Original Drawing by HENRY CORBOULD.  
Printed by J. Hullmandel.









RICHARD DE WATFORD.  
FIRST RECTOR OF THE COLLEGE OF ASHRIDGE.

Drawn on Stone by RICHARD LANE, from the Original Drawing by HENRY CORBOULD.  
Printed by C. Hullmandel.









THOMAS DE CANTILUPE, BISHOP OF HEREFORD.  
THE FRIEND OF EDMUND, FOUNDER OF THE COLLEGE OF ASHRIDGE.

Drawn on Stone by RICHARD LANE, from the Original Drawing by HENRI COPPOULD.  
Printed by C. Hullmandel.









R. WESTMACOTT, R.A. SCULPTOR.

ST. BENEDICT.

TUTELAR SAINT OF THE COLLEGE OF ASHRIDGE.

Drawn on Stone by RICHARD LANE from the Original Drawing by HENRY CORBOULD.  
Printed by C. Hollmandel.









A MONK.

Drawn on Stone by RICHARD LANE. from the Original Drawing by HENRY CORBOULD.  
Printed by C. Hallmandel.













Drawn by F. Mackenzie.

Engraved by W. B. Smith.

EAST FRONT, ASHRIDGE.

Printed by J. & W. Smith.



to the eastern terrace; from which is a descent by a broad flight of steps to a parterre of flowers.

#### BILLIARD-ROOM AND ANTE-ROOM.

Adjoining to the Library are a Billiard-Room and Ante-Room, lighted to the North, which form a communication with the eastern wing. This wing, running in a diagonal direction to the North-East, is appropriated to the private apartments of the Earl and Countess.

#### THE APARTMENTS OF THE EARL AND COUNTESS.

Thus commodiously detached from the general intercourse of the house, the Earl of BRIDGE-WATER'S Sitting-Room commands a view over the Park to the North and West, and along the entrance front: and that of the Countess commands the parterre before mentioned with a very extensive view to the South and East. The foliage of a beautiful valley, and of a richly wooded bank ascending opposite, and perceived between the stems of the majestic and venerable row of lime trees, before noticed, give additional interest and beauty to the scene.

#### GREENHOUSE AND ORANGERY.

Having passed these apartments, a short descent leads to a Greenhouse and Orangery, in three compartments, covering a space of one hundred and thirty feet in length, by thirty feet in breadth. The glass roof is supported by iron tracery, and is divided like the nave and side-aisles of a church. The building is thus so well lighted, (the glass not being visible on the outside over the battlements,) that scarcely a shadow is formed within. It is terminated by an open arcade, and by an octagonal tower fifty feet high, forming the eastern extremity of the whole line both to the North and South fronts, as shewn in the respective Views.

#### TERRACE, AND ARCADE TO THE LIBRARY.

Returning from the eastern end, along the South front of the Greenhouse, passing under the windows of the family apartments, and ascending the steps to the Terrace, an external view is presented of the Arcade to the Library, and includes the whole of the East end of the Mansion. This Terrace is ornamented by a statue of Queen ELIZABETH in *Malta* stone, executed by WESTMACOTT, which is placed in a niche decorated with a carved corbel, panelled octagon towers, and rich canopy; and fronts the South. At the extremity of this Terrace, turning to the South front of the Mansion, the bold projections and various tracery of the bow windows of the superior apartments exhibit a pleasing effect; and the elaborately ornamented front of the closed Cloister formed into a Conservatory, and leading to the Chapel, which projects its length to the South from the Terrace, is an object of great grandeur.

#### DINING ROOM.

Entering again at the centre of this front of the Mansion into the Ante-Rooms, the doors, to the western side, open into the Dining Room, which is of the same dimensions as the Drawing Room; and (with the intervening Ante-Room) is furnished in the same manner with Oak, crimson damask, and gold mouldings. The tables and sideboards in this room are of solid rose-wood, exquisitely carved. Over the chimney-piece is a large picture (one of the series already mentioned) representing the entertainment given in *Guildhall*, by the Corporation of the City of *London*, to the Allied Sovereigns on the 18th of June, 1814. It is remarkable, that on the same day in the following year was fought the Battle of *Waterloo*, which accomplished the great purposes for which these Sovereigns had been united. The picture is painted by Clennell, but unfinished: it contains portraits of many of the guests present at this magnificent banquet; and is admitted to be executed, even in its imperfect state, so as to command general admiration: while it waited only for the completing touch of his masterly hand, it is melancholy to relate, the artist was afflicted with the loss of reason.



From the middle of the Dining Room to the middle of the Drawing Room, was situated *the original Hall of the College*; the Crypt of which is still in existence beneath. The western end of the Dining Room is the precise spot of *the old Buttery*.

#### CONSERVATORY.

A plate-glass window at the western end of the Dining Room opens into the large Conservatory; into which there is a descent of two steps: it is 107 feet in length, twenty feet at each end, and thirty feet in the centre in width, with an open-worked oak roof; and is lighted by eleven large Gothick windows. In the spaces are *Malta* stone vases, and China jars; and in the centre a large bronze vase, supported by four *termini*, and surrounded by festoons and flowers, of superior workmanship. The door, seen at the end of this Conservatory, leads to the Ante-Chapel.

#### PASSAGE TO THE CHAPEL: THE CHAPEL.

On the North side of the Dining Room a door opens to a Corridore leading through a long line of arches, under a decorated Gothick ceiling, lighted from the inner Court, so as to give a solemn appearance to the whole. On arriving at the end of this Corridore, there are a pair of high pointed Gothick oak doors, curiously carved, which, according to tradition, had belonged to the ancient College. Passing through these into a richly groined Lobby, and turning to the left, the Ante-Chapel is entered through an arch under the Organ.

The interior of this Chapel has been justly considered as the master-piece of the late James Wyatt; a perfect model of its kind.

From the point, at which the Chapel is entered, it is difficult to say what most excites our admiration. The perforated oak skreen, which divides it from the Ante-Chapel; the highly wrought Gothick ceiling; the windows filled with beautiful painted glass, and throwing around their various-coloured and subdued light; the elaborately carved Altar-piece, and the Gothick brass rail which encloses it;—all at once demand our particular notice.

From the Altar the view towards the entrance of the Chapel is equally striking. The Pulpit and the Reading Desk are well placed, opposite to each other; and somewhat elevated above the highest seats, which are in the stalls on each side. These stalls are terminated by two very richly carved canopies at the North end of the Chapel, which form the seats of the Earl and Countess of Bridgewater; and beneath these stalls are the seats for servants. From the Altar is also seen, through a beautifully proportioned Gothick arch over the skreen, the Organ placed above the entrance into the Ante-Chapel. This instrument, which often offends the eye by rising up in the middle of the great aisle of our Cathedrals, and interrupting the striking effect of the continued Gothick arch, is here placed at the extremity with peculiar effect, and in no degree disturbs the exquisite symmetry of the interior; but, ornamented in the same style of carving as the rest of the Chapel, contributes much to its beautiful effect.

In this Chapel the first Sermon was preached, in November, 1817, by the Chaplain to the Earl of BRIDGEWATER, who has had the honour of compiling the pages of this History.

#### DOMESTICK OFFICES, STABLES, ETC.

By the same passage at the back of the Conservatory, which conducted to the Chapel, is a direct communication from the Kitchen to the Dining Room, to the Butler's and Under Butler's apartments, to the Plate Closet and Silver Scullery.

Returning to the Hall of Entrance, there is a passage on the left hand leading directly westward, at the back of the range of building forming part of the North front; the first room in which on the right hand is called *the North Breakfast Room*, and serves as a Dining Room also to such persons as may desire to dine before or after the regular hour of dinner. Adjoining is a Bed-Chamber to accommodate any guest, who may find inconvenience in ascending a staircase. On the left hand of the passage is one of the back staircases, and a flight of steps which lead directly to the Servants' Hall beneath. This staircase is carried to the top of the house. Continuing along this passage, on the right hand, are the Still Room, Housekeeper's





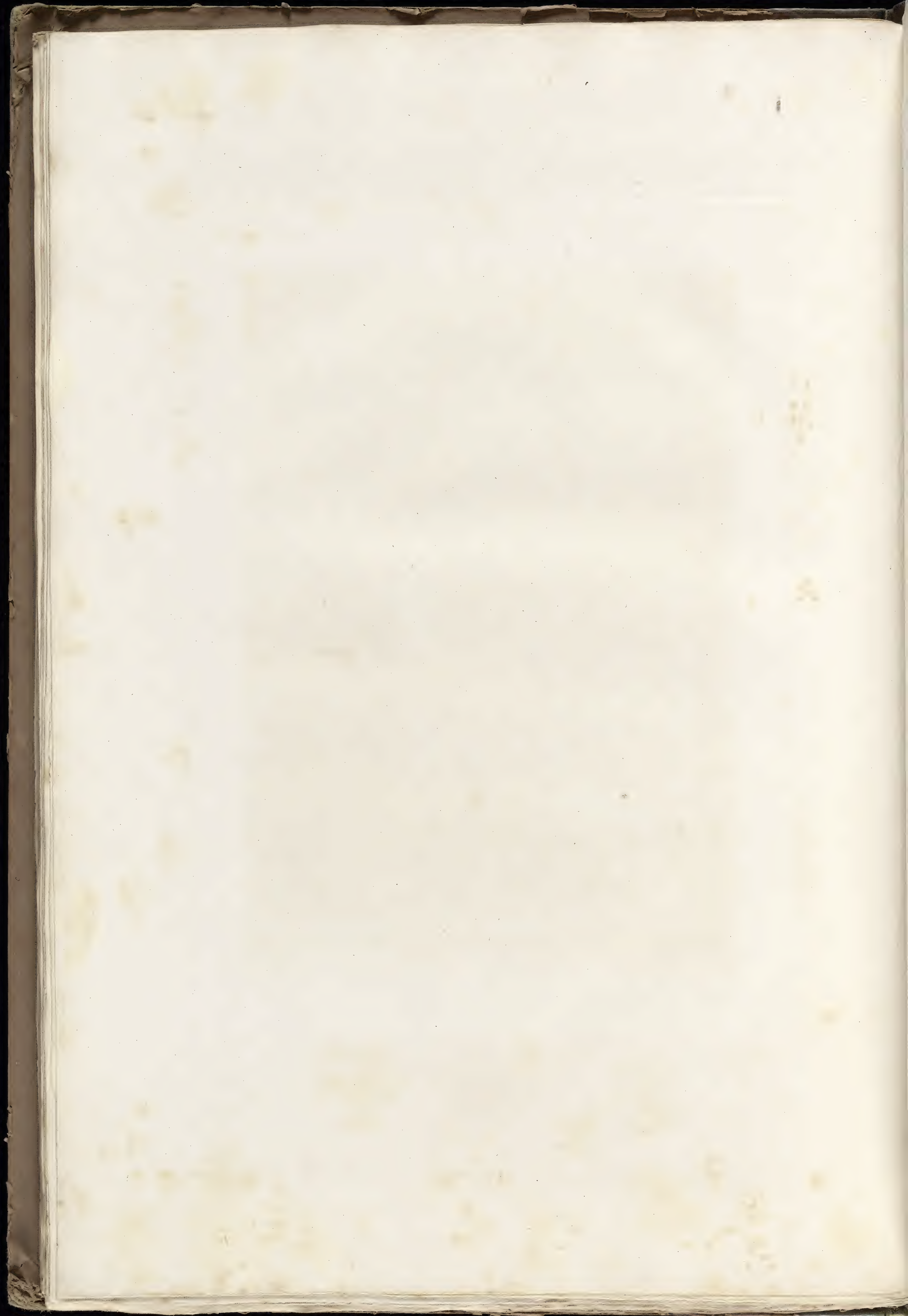
*Drawn by F. Mackenzie.*

*Engraved by W. Woolcock.*

N.W. VIEW OF THE CHAPEL TOWER.

*Printed by M. J. Smith.*









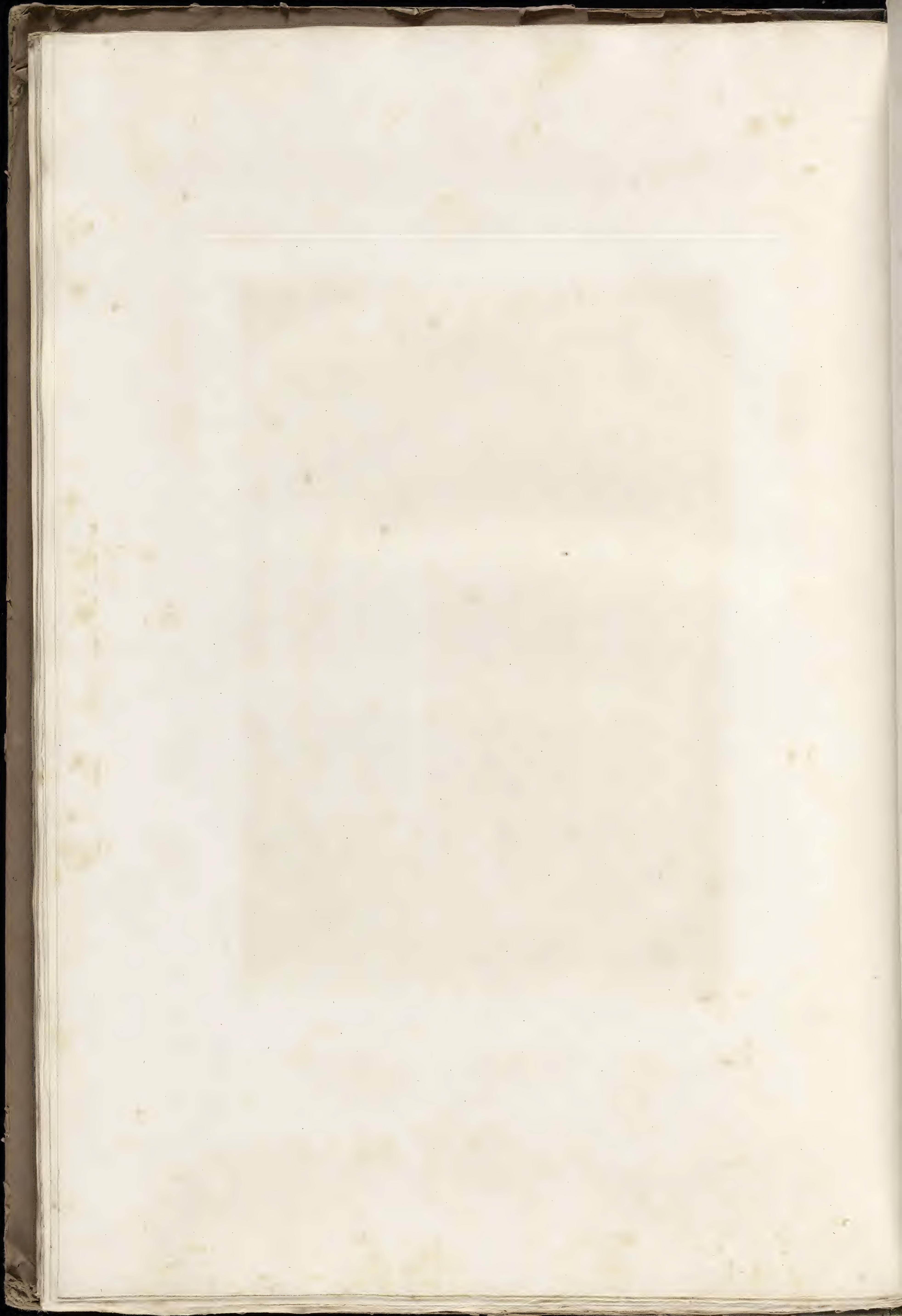
Drawn by T. Sturges.

Engraved by W. Woodcut.

S.W. END OF THE CHAPEL, AT ASHRIDGE.

Printed by H. Colver.









*F. Mackenzie del.*

*J. Heath & A. Frohman sculp.*

INTERIOR OF THE CHAPEL, ASHRIDGE: LOOKING TOWARDS THE ALTAR.

*Printed by W. L. ...*









*F. Mackenzie del.*

*A. Fredairn sculp.*

VIEW OF THE ALTAR IN THE CHAPEL, ASHRIDGE.

*Printed by W. D.*

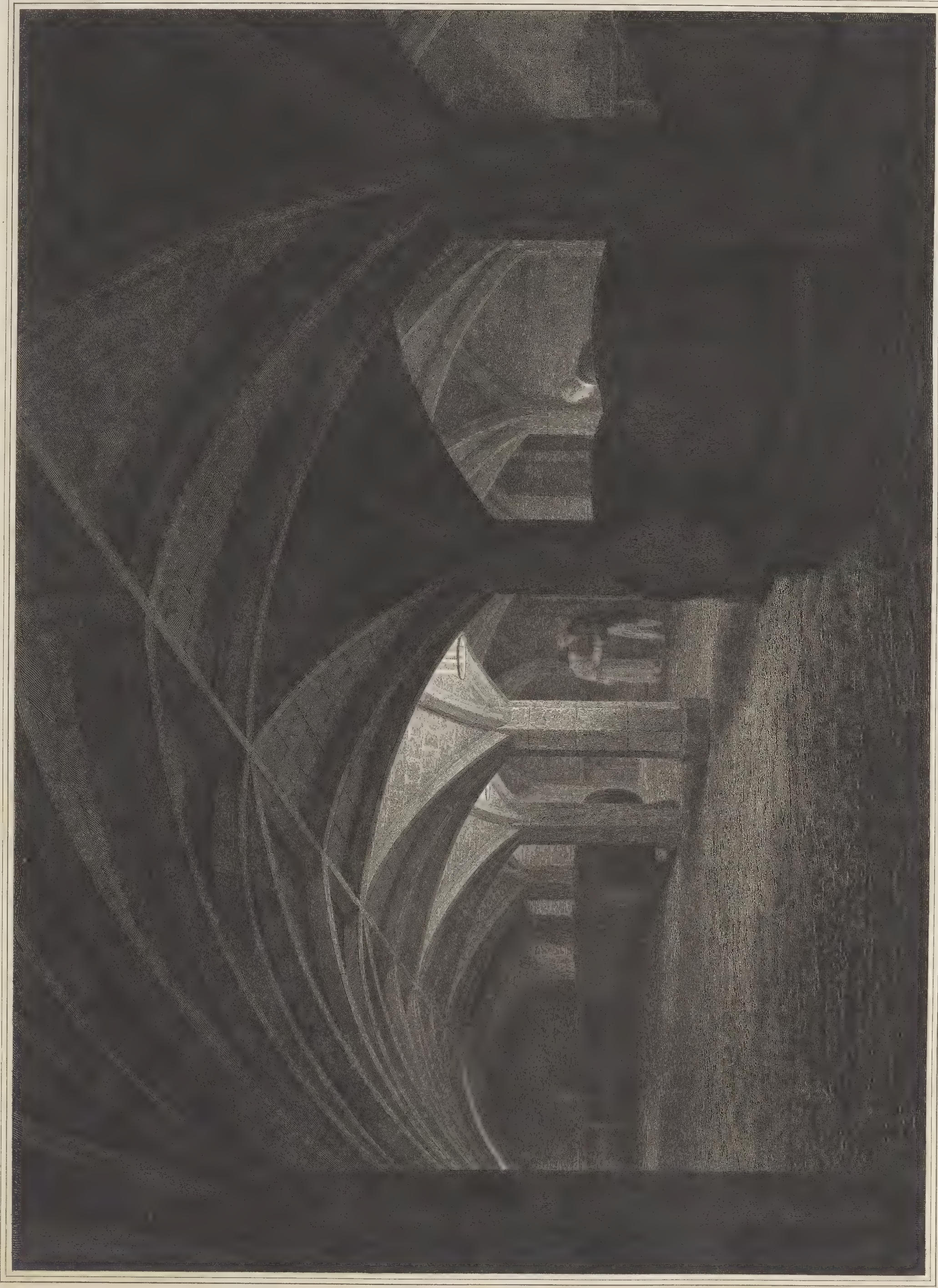












Engraved by Henry Le Roux.

CRYPT. ASHRIDGE.

Drawn by J. MacKenzie.

*Printed by M. Dyer.*



Room, Servants' Entrance, Steward's Room, House-Steward's Office, Clerks' Room, and the Evidence Room; the whole of which are lighted to the North. The Evidence Room is arched over, and within is uniformly fitted with oak cases and iron safes; great care having been taken to render it fire-proof, as a security for the important documents contained in it.

On the left hand of the passage are Store Rooms, several inferior offices, and a staircase from the Servants' Hall to the back entrance. A passage also turns to the left, running North and South, and connecting with the passage leading to the Dining Room. In this cross passage a door opens, on the left hand, to an octagonal Game-Larder within the inner Court, surmounted with a double roof, and ventilated on all sides. Opposite is the door to the Kitchen. The Kitchen is 36 feet by 21, and 36 feet high to the ridge of the open-work roof. Attached to the Kitchen are a Meat-Larder, a Pastry, and Scullery, opening to the Kitchen Court; in which one side is the Dairy with its Scullery, and the depositories for coal and wood; and on the other the Bakehouse, and various storehouses. On the West side, and running parallel with the Kitchen, is a line of building terminated by two high towers, each 29 by 21 feet within, the North-west being the Laundry, and the South-west the Brewhouse. Each of these towers has a small Court within.

The engraved view shews the interior of the Court with the North side of the Chapel.

To the westward of these towers are situated the Weighing Engine, the Watchmen's Room, the apartments of the Coachmen and Grooms, the Saddle Rooms, and the Stables. Connected with these, and surrounding a spacious Court, are the Coach-houses, Harness Rooms, Hay Places, (there being no Lofts over the Stables,) Granaries, Smiths' Shops, and Shoeing House. By a large College-like covered Gateway the Stable-yard is entered, with a foot door on one side. This Gateway stands with an inclination from the line of the North front towards the East, and forms a very picturesque feature in that front. At this point an open gate, facing eastwards, leads to the timber-yard, and to the shops of various workmen. This space is surrounded by an irregular high embattled wall, terminated by a tower at the western extremity. At a certain distance from the North front, the eye may include in its view this termination, as well as the before mentioned eastern tower, and the long and varied line of towers, turrets and pinnacles.

Turning southward by the western tower, we then see the arched Gateway to the Timber-yard, the Dog-kennel, Cow-yard, and Gardener's-yard, placed at the back of the Stable Court, and completing the number of Domestick Offices. These are all enclosed with an embattled wall.

There is a convenient range of pavement on the North side of the house, five hundred feet in length, and in width from five to fifteen feet, as varied by the breaks of the building; and in front of this is the gravelled Coach-road of the same length, and 70 feet wide.

#### CELLARS, CRYPT, ETC.

On the basement story of the house are servants' apartments and capacious cellars; and here are placed the stoves which warm the hall, staircases, and passages. The ancient Crypt on this floor deserves particular attention. From the old College Hall and Buttery, above, a staircase descended to this Crypt. It is built of stone, and has a range of octagonal pillars down the centre, from which the groins diverge: they descend from a line in the centre, and converge at answerable points on the external walls: in these walls recesses have been made, which are used for the purposes of wine-bins.

#### BED CHAMBERS.

Having viewed the basement story and the ground floor, we now come to that of the Bed-chambers. On ascending the grand stairs, a short flight of steps branches off to a range of Bachelors' apartments, which form a Mezzonine, in the body of the Mansion, to the West and North fronts; in the latter of which they extend, so as to form the upper story over the Housekeeper's and Steward's Rooms, as shewn in the engraved North view. Continuing up the grand stairs, the two flights meet upon a long landing, which projects from three open Gothick arches leading to the Corridore. This Corridore is continued on each side of the



staircase, and forms the communication to all the principal bed rooms, which are arranged with every accommodation. There are three open arches, similar to those which lead to the Corridore, in each of the remaining sides of the staircase hall ; which produce a most beautiful effect, in viewing the scenery from below.

#### THE ATTICK STORY.

This story contains numerous bed-rooms, and is ascended by the back staircase. Still higher is a large space, which opens to the suspended Gallery occupying the four sides of the Staircase Hall, immediately under the windows. The back staircase further ascends, until it reaches the roof of the high centre tower, on which is a large lead flat ; whence are seen directly to the South, in the extreme distance of 40 miles, the *Surrey Hills* ; inclining to the West, *Windsor Forest* ; and directly West, the wooded mounds of *Buckinghamshire*. The lengthened and majestick avenues in the Park form a grand feature in the views. Here also are seen the *Chiltern Hills*, at the verge of which rises *Crawley Wood*, a high clump of trees, which may be seen from every county in its circle, and is said to be a sea-mark from the East. In this direction is a distant view into *Warwickshire* ; and towards the East are seen the hills of *Hertfordshire* and *Bedfordshire*.

#### GARDEN AND SHRUBBERY.

At the eastern tower, under the majestick branches of the old lime trees, a gravel walk commences, which continues round the Garden. From the limes, by a gently undulating line to the South, we arrive at an ash tree, of which the extraordinary dimensions of the trunk and branches sufficiently mark its age, though it appears to have lost little of the vigour of youth.

From this point the various lines of the building, its towers, turrets, and spire, are seen to great advantage. The engraved South view of the House is taken nearly in a line with the ash tree, but at a greater distance. Proceeding on this walk, and inclining to the West, we find from a dell another walk branching off in one direction to a circular rosary, in the centre of which is a fountain of plain yet elegant design ; and in another direction leading through a subterraneous passage, of which the western end opens into large masses of rock intermixed with flowers and shrubs. In the interstices of the rock-work is a small pool of water, abounding with gold and silver fish.

The walk continuing northwards by an antiquated flint wall, through a small Flower-garden, in which there is a stove-house for exotick plants, leads to the lengthened Conventual Barn, with its enriched dormer windows and centre turret ; the front wall having been set back a few feet, and the original oak-posts being placed under the beams of the roof, a long arcade is formed open to the South. The walk has now reached a square, which is divided into regular parterres of flowers ; and in the middle is a Gothick cross upon an octagonal foundation. In this cross, at different heights, are small compartments formed for the purpose of holding pots of flowers, which contribute much to the decoration of this interesting spot. The profusion also of flowers which abound here, as well as in the walks and conservatories, together with the elegance of their arrangement, sufficiently indicates the care and attention bestowed by the Countess of BRIDGEWATER upon the delightful pursuits of the garden.

From the arcade a winding covered way leads, by the dairy building, to the western side of the Chapel ; and a parallel strait walk is continued from the parterre to the South end of the Chapel. This passes through what is called *the Monks' Garden*, (being an oblong square with high box hedges, and supposed to have been the entrance to the western end of the old Conventual Church,) and under a rough archway of large pudding-stones, the uppermost of which is called *the County Stone*, as marking the boundary of the Counties of *Buckingham* and *Hertford*. This walk then follows the line of the South front, and finishes the perambulation at the eastern tower, the point at which it began.

As far as the Garden has been described, the original idea and design of it were suggested by the late Mr. REPTON ; which yet, in many respects, were varied by the directions of the Earl and Countess of BRIDGEWATER.





Designed by J. L. P. N. 1800.

SOUTH FRONT OF ASHRIDGE.

Drawn by F. Mackenzie.

Printed by W. L. 1800.







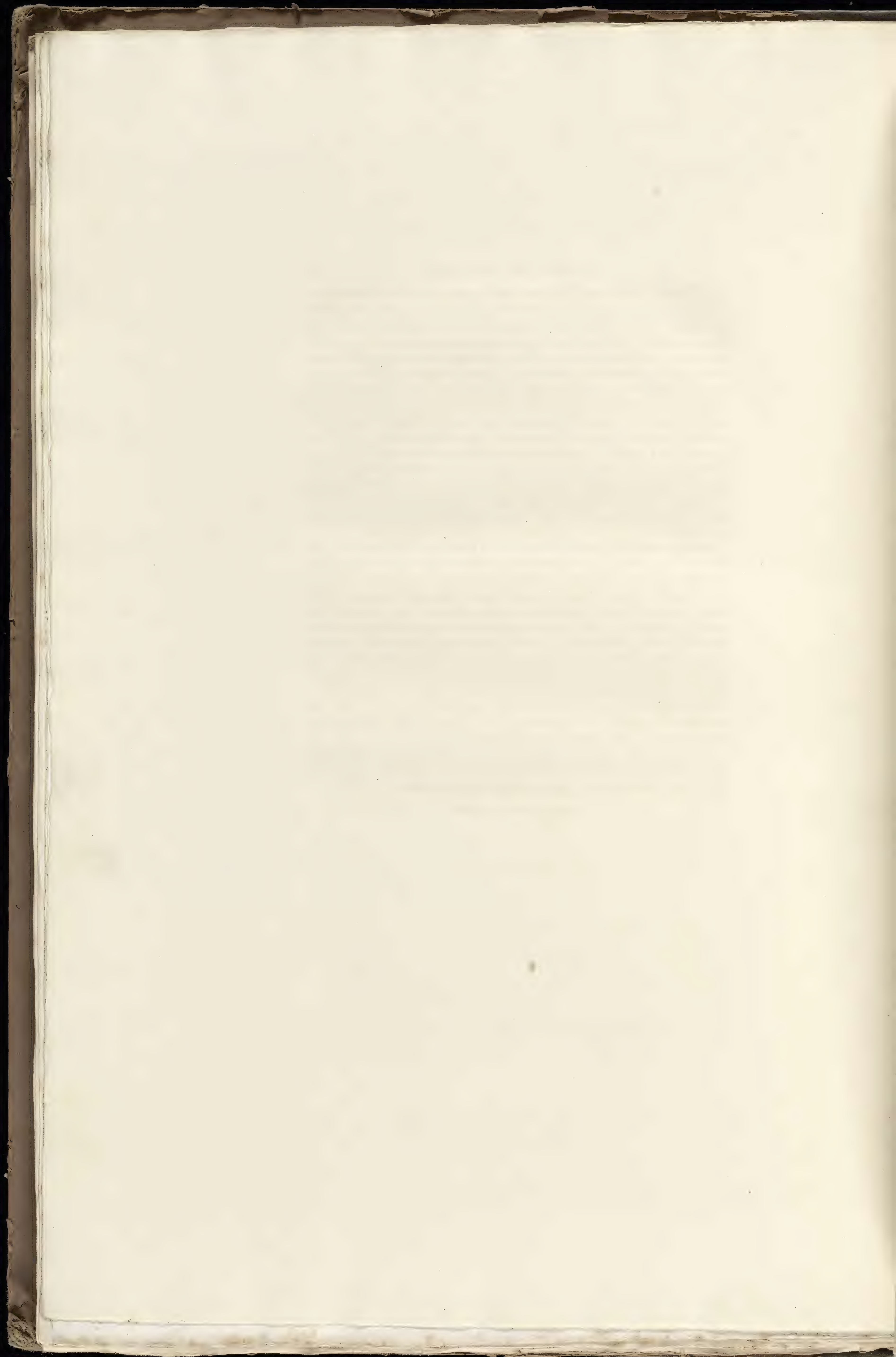
The Mansion is built externally with stone from the quarry of the Earl of BRIDGEWATER at *Totternhoe*, in the county of *Bedford*, about seven miles distant from *Ashridge*, of which mention has been made<sup>1</sup> in the preceding pages. This stone is of a soft chalky nature. Of its durability, however, on a flat surface, there are sufficient proofs in the instance of the old College of Ashridge, and of other buildings in the neighbourhood. But the copings of the battlements of the Mansion, and such carved or projecting parts as would be most liable to injury, have been executed in *Portland* stone. The house was nearly in a state for habitation, from the Library on the East to the Brewhouse and Laundry towers on the West, when an accident occasioned the instant death of the architect. His loss has been most ably supplied by his nephew, Mr. Jeffry Wyatt, who completed the unfinished parts, and from whose designs have been executed the Entrance Porch, and external Great Window above it; the arched Seat in the East front to the Conventual Barn; the Cross in the Garden, and the Fountains and Vases; the niche of the Statue on the staircase; the finishing of the Altar in the Chapel, (the five centre niches only having been previously and in part executed,) the altar-rail, the reading desk and pulpit, the front seats, the oak skreen, the Earl and Countess of Bridgewater's stalls and canopies, and the organ. He likewise designed and executed the new buildings forming the family apartments, and the green-house reaching from the corner of the library to the lime-trees on the East; the entrance to the stable-yard; the stables, and coach-houses.

*Ashridge* cannot fail to gratify the inquisitive and liberal mind, recalling as it does the devotion and austerity of the cloister, as well as the generous virtues of our ancient nobility. In no spot in the kingdom have more beneficial changes been made, within modern recollection, than in this. It had been for some years past somewhat neglected. After it came into the hands of its present possessor, Churches in the neighbourhood of this ancient place, several of which were under the jurisdiction or in the patronage of the College, have been repaired and beautified, or wholly rebuilt; new roads of communication have been opened; neatness has become the character of the peasant's cottage; and villages, which before presented a picture of want and misery, now offer that of cleanliness and comfort. The activity of benevolence has here also been most conspicuously displayed, by the present proprietor, in adopting the true mode of relieving poverty, by encouraging industry. Employment has been readily found for all persons of good character, who have presented themselves from the neighbouring villages; and at the time of writing this description, it came to the knowledge of the compiler, that the number of those, to whom the Earl of BRIDGEWATER was paying weekly wages, were upwards of eight hundred.

Thus while the face of this part of the country has been embellished, the condition of its inhabitants also has been meliorated, and their morals (we may hope) have been improved. It is by such means that the mansions of the great and wealthy may be always made to constitute at the same time the advantage, and the ornament, of the Nation.

<sup>1</sup> See preceding History, p. 58. note ".







# A P P E N D I X.

## N<sup>o</sup>. I.

### \* ABSTRACT OF MINISTERS ACCOUNTS, 32 HEN. VIII.

#### *Comitatus Buckinghamie.*

COMPOTA omnium et singulorum Ballivorum Firmariorum ac omnium aliorum ministrorum Domini Regis nunc Henrici 8<sup>vi</sup>. Dei gracia Anglie et Francie Regis fidei defensoris Domini Hibernie et in terra supremi Capitis Anglicane Ecclesie de omnibus et singulis dominijs manerijs villis villatis necnon omnibus alijs possessionibus et hereditamentis quibuscunque diversis nuper Monasterijs et Prioratibus in Comitatu predicto tam virtute et auctoritate parlamenti suppressis et dissolutis quam ratione sursumredditionis ac voluntarie tituli et juris donationis diversorum nuper Abbatum priorum et Conventuum eorundem nuper Monasteriorum et Prioratuum modo in manibus dicti Domini Regis existentibus spectantibus sive pertinentibus a festo Sancti Michaelis Archangeli anno regni Regis Henrici 8<sup>vi</sup>. 31<sup>mo</sup>. usque idem festum Sancti Michaelis extunc proximo sequens anno regni ejusdem Domini Regis 32<sup>do</sup>. scilicet per unum annum integrum.

Terre et Possessiones nuper Collegio de *Assherugge* pertinentes.

*Pythelesthorne et Nethelden* parcell revencionum dicti nuper Collegij de *Assherugge*.

Redditus tam liberorum quam custumariorum tenencium ibidem.....	£8	3	4½
Redditus mobiles .....	0	0	8
Minute Firme .....	8	8	8½
Perquisita Curiarum .....	0	11	10
Summa totalis Recepte £17 4 9			

#### *Hemelhamsted.*

Redditus assisi cum Redditibus custumariorum tenencium ibidem.....	195	1	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
Molendinum de <i>Hemelhamsted</i> vocatum <i>Burn-hyll</i> .....	2	6	8
Firma Vaccarie cum quodam Molendino vocato <i>Bury Myll</i> et alia .....	0	12	0
Perquisita Curiarum .....	9	3	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
Firme Molendinorum vocat. <i>le Covent Myll</i> , <i>Pykerdys Myll</i> et <i>le Fullyng Myll</i>	Null.		
Summa totalis Recepte £207	3	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	

\* See the Rental of the College, in the preceding History, p. 26. et seq.



Rectoria de *Ivynghe* et *Clypdon*, cum decimis in *Chedyngton*, *Horton*, *Cowpermede*, parcell. Rectorie de *Ivynghe* predicta.

Redditus tam liberorum quam customariorum tenencium ibidem .....	£2 12 8½
Redditus mobiles cum consuetudinibus .....	0 1 7
Firma decimarum in <i>Ivynghe</i> et <i>Clypdon</i> .....	22 6 0
Messuagium ejusdem Rectorie de <i>Ivynghe</i> .....	3 6 8
Decima Granorum in <i>Chedyngton</i> parcella Rectorie de <i>Ivynghe</i> .....	3 6 8
Portio decimarum in <i>Cowpermede</i> .....	1 0 0
Porciones decimarum de <i>Ivynghe</i> et <i>Pythelesthorne</i> infra parochiam de <i>Horton</i>	3 0 0
Perquisita Curiarum .....	Null.
Vendicio Bosci .....	Null.

Summa totalis Recepte £35 13 7½

*Gaddesden Parva*, *Frythesden*, *Aldebury*, *Hudnall*, *Gaddysden-Howe*, et *Barkamsted*.

Redditus assisi cum Redditibus customariorum .....	7 14 5¾
Redditus tam liberorum quam customariorum tenencium in <i>Frythesden</i> .....	6 10 10½
Redditus assisi manerij de <i>Aldebury</i> .....	8 0 0
Firma de <i>Hudnall</i> in parochia de <i>Edlesborow</i> .....	3 6 8
Terra vocata <i>Gaddesden-Howe</i> in Comitatu <i>Hertfordie</i> .....	1 0 0
Burgagium in <i>Berkamsted</i> quondam vocat. <i>the Lambe</i> in Comitatu <i>Hertford</i> ....	1 0 0
Perquisita Curiarum .....	0 13 4

Summa totalis Recepte £28 5 4¼

*Ambresden* cum *Blakethorne*.

Redditus customariorum tenencium in <i>Ambresden</i> .....	8 9 5
Redditus assisi in <i>Ambresden</i> .....	0 3 5
Quoddam pratum vocatum <i>Styrwyke in Campo de Ambresden</i> .....	0 7 0
Redditus customariorum tenencium cum Redditibus assisis in <i>Blakethorne</i> .....	19 4 10½
Perquisita Curiarum .....	1 2 6

Summa totalis Recepte £29 7 2½

Rectoria de *Hemelhamsted*.

Firma Rectorie de <i>Hemelhamsted</i> cum membris, viz. <i>Bovyngdon</i> et <i>Flaunden</i> } cum omnibus decimis granorum .....	8 0 0
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Molendina de *Hemelhamsted*.

Firma molendinorum infra parochiam de <i>Hemelhamsted</i> , viz. unius molendini } aquatici vocat. <i>le Covent Myll</i> . Alij molendini aquatici vocat. <i>Pykerdysmylle</i> } alias <i>Pygotts Mill</i> et alij Molendini vocat. <i>the Fullynge Myll</i> .....	6 0 0
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Porcio decimarum de *Pedynton* parcell Rectorie de *Ambresden*.

Firma portionis decimarum de <i>Pedyngton</i> pertinentium Rector. de <i>Ambresden</i> } in Com. <i>Oxon</i> .....	6 13 4
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Rectoria et Firma de *Ambresden* alias dict. Rectoria de *Blakethorn*.

Firma dicte Rectorie cum decimis ejusdem ac cum portione in <i>Arnecotts</i> in dicto } Comitatu <i>Oxon</i> .....	26 13 4
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# APPENDIX.

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## Rectoria de *Chesterton*.

Firma dicte Rectorie cum omnibus decimis ejusdem ..... £10 0 0

## Maneria de *Ambresden et Chesterton*.

*Ambresden et Blakethorne*..... 27 11 10½  
*Chesterton*, Null. quia concessit Thome Pope Mil.

## Rectoria de *Pichelesthorne*.

Firma dicte Rectore cum omnibus decimis..... 16 7 10

Firma unius tenementi vocati *le Dayre-house* necnon certarum terrarum vocat. }  
*Hoden-Hall Parke* cum alijs ..... } 6 19 4

The preceding document has been obligingly communicated by John Caley, Esq. to whom the Earl of Bridgewater is also indebted for the copy of the beautiful seal, in this page, appended to the acknowledgement of the King's supremacy in 1534, which is preserved in the Chapter House of Westminster; of the Records in which this learned antiquary is the Keeper. There is a small variation in the arms; the lion, which the Earl of Cornwall bore, being also apparent under the usual bearing of the College.





## APPENDIX.

N<sup>o</sup>. II.

N<sup>o</sup>. I.

### PROCEEDINGS IN THE COURT OF AUGMENTATIONS, 34 HEN. VIII.

To y<sup>e</sup>. ryghte Wurschyppefull S<sup>r</sup>. Rycherd Ryche Knyghte Chauncellyr<sup>e</sup> off y<sup>e</sup>. Kyng<sup>e</sup> honorable Court<sup>e</sup> off hys agmentacyons off y<sup>e</sup>. Revenuyz off hys Crowne and other hys Consell ther.

HUMBLY schewyth and compleynyth unto yo<sup>r</sup>. Wurschypfull Masterschyppe yo<sup>r</sup>. orator and beadman Robte Eme y<sup>t</sup>. Whereas one *Thomas<sup>a</sup> Watrouse* late go<sup>v</sup>ner off the house & College of *Asheruge* comonly called *the Rector off the College off Asheruge in the Counte off Bukyngh'm and the Covent off y<sup>e</sup>. same* was seased in ther demeane as off fee off and in one Dary house sytuat<sup>e</sup> and bylded w<sup>o</sup>ute the Gatez off the sayd late house or Monest<sup>y</sup> and off and in certen other housez Bar<sup>n</sup>ys and Byldyng<sup>e</sup> therto belongyng and off and in iij Medowe Grond<sup>e</sup> wheroff one behynd y<sup>e</sup>. Dayry house aforesayd the second lyeth before the sayd Dayry house and thurd called the Laund lyeng behynd the stablys off y<sup>e</sup>. sayd late House or Monest<sup>y</sup> conteynyng by estymacyon vij acrez off Medow and also off and in certen se<sup>v</sup>all fold<sup>e</sup> that ys to say Two lytlyll feld<sup>e</sup> called *Tothyll feld<sup>e</sup>* lyeng together w<sup>t</sup>. a ptycyon between them conteynyng by estymacyon xx acrez and off & in iij other ground<sup>e</sup> or feld<sup>e</sup> wheroff one ys called pke feld another *Conygarthe feld* the thurd ys called *Turnar feld<sup>e</sup>* conteynyng by estymacyon vj skore acre off arrable land and off and in ij other plac<sup>e</sup> off arrable land called the *lose feld<sup>e</sup>* conteynyng by estymacyon x acrez set lyeng and beyng in y<sup>e</sup>. pyshe off *Netyliden* in the sayd Counte off Buckyngh<sup>m</sup> and the sayd Rector and y<sup>e</sup>. Covent off y<sup>e</sup>. same House so seased off y<sup>e</sup>. p<sup>r</sup>myssez in y<sup>e</sup>. demeane as off fee in y<sup>e</sup>. ryghte off y<sup>e</sup>. said late Monest<sup>y</sup> or House off *Asheruge* aforesayd by ther Indentur und<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup>. Covent seale off y<sup>e</sup>. said late House dated and dely<sup>v</sup>ed y<sup>e</sup>. vij day off November y<sup>e</sup>. xxix yere off y<sup>e</sup>. Reygne off o<sup>r</sup>. So<sup>v</sup>aygne Lord Kyng Henry y<sup>e</sup>. viij<sup>th</sup>. demysed and lessed y<sup>e</sup>. same Dayry House Messuag<sup>e</sup> Barnez Byldyng<sup>e</sup> Land<sup>e</sup> Feld<sup>e</sup> Medowys & all other y<sup>e</sup>. p<sup>r</sup>myssez to y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Copleyn<sup>n</sup>it to have and to holde y<sup>e</sup>. same to y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Copleyn<sup>n</sup>it fro y<sup>e</sup>. date off y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Indentur for certen yerez then next insuyng wheroff pcell off them ben yet to come yeldyng and payeng therefore yerely to y<sup>e</sup>. Rector & Covent ther successors & assygne<sup>v</sup>z vjl. xiijs. & iiij<sup>d</sup>. at t<sup>h</sup>mez expressyd in y<sup>e</sup>. same Indentur and other Covin<sup>n</sup>it<sup>e</sup> to be done by y<sup>e</sup>. same Copleyn<sup>n</sup>it<sup>e</sup> beyng lesse fermor as more plenly aperythe by y<sup>e</sup>. same Indentur by force wheroff y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Copleyn<sup>n</sup>it was possessyd off y<sup>e</sup>. p<sup>r</sup>myssez accordyngly and y<sup>e</sup>. pfyght<sup>e</sup> theroff hathe taken pesably to suche tyme as yo<sup>r</sup>. sayd Orrator broughte y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Indentur afore one Wy<sup>t</sup>tm Candysche one off y<sup>e</sup>. Kyng<sup>e</sup> Andytors off y<sup>e</sup>. sayd heyghe Court<sup>e</sup> off Agmentacyons to be beward by hym and inrolled and dely<sup>v</sup>ed y<sup>e</sup>. same to y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Candysche to be inrolled & to be sene wyche Wy<sup>t</sup>tm Candysche dothe un-

<sup>a</sup> The last Rector of the College. See the preceding History, p. 24. These Proceedings have also been communicated by J. Caley, Esq.



lawfully reteyne and kepe y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Indentur off Covent Seale fro yo<sup>r</sup>. sayd Orrator and by moste lykelyod hath delyved y<sup>e</sup>. same to one John Norrys Gent. who hathe nowe y<sup>e</sup>. Custody & Rule off y<sup>e</sup>. sayd late Monestry or house & oftentyme the sayd Wyllm Candysche and John Norreys hathe instanced and speccially labored y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Compleynnt for to graunt & sell y<sup>e</sup>. sayd John Norreys y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Indentur lesse and ferme off y<sup>e</sup>. p<sup>r</sup>myssez wyche yo<sup>r</sup>. sayd Orrator never was consentyd so to doo and by Color off havynge off y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Indentur y<sup>e</sup>. sayd John Norreys dayly unquetythe & pturbythe y<sup>e</sup>. possessyon off yo<sup>r</sup>. sayd Orrator so y<sup>e</sup>. yo<sup>r</sup>. sayd Orrator ys not able to pay y<sup>e</sup>. Kyng<sup>e</sup> Hyghnez hys ferme and yerely Rent<sup>e</sup> for y<sup>e</sup>. p<sup>r</sup>myssez In consyderacyon wheroff & for y<sup>e</sup>. the sayd John Norreys ys a Man off Wurschyppe & yo<sup>r</sup>. sayd Orrator a pore Man y<sup>e</sup>. may therfore please yo<sup>r</sup>. Mast<sup>r</sup>schyppe the p<sup>r</sup>myssez tend<sup>r</sup>ly consydered to graunt yo<sup>r</sup>. sayd Orrator y<sup>e</sup>. Kyng<sup>e</sup> moste gracyus Wrytt off preve seale oute off thys honorable Court<sup>e</sup> to be dyrected to y<sup>e</sup>. sayd John Norreys and Wyllm Candysche & to ev<sup>r</sup>y off them Comandyng them & ev<sup>r</sup>y off them by y<sup>e</sup>. same psonally to apere afore yo<sup>r</sup>. Mast<sup>r</sup>schyppe in thys sayd honorable Court to aunswer to y<sup>e</sup>. p<sup>r</sup>myssez & further to stand ther to suche order and dyrecyon as schall stand w<sup>th</sup>. equitye and conyence and y<sup>e</sup>. the sayd John Norreys may be copelled and inyoyned by thys honorable Court to suffre y<sup>e</sup>. sayd copleynnt<sup>e</sup> to occupye y<sup>e</sup>. p<sup>r</sup>myssez unto suche tyme as y<sup>e</sup>. sayd John Norreys hathe proved a suffycient tyle to y<sup>e</sup>. p<sup>r</sup>myssez in thys honorable Court and yo<sup>r</sup>. sayd Orrator schall daly p<sup>r</sup>y to God for y<sup>e</sup>. p<sup>r</sup>svacyon off yo<sup>r</sup>. Mast<sup>r</sup>schype long to contynewe.

N<sup>o</sup>. II.

## PROCEEDINGS IN THE COURT OF AUGMENTATIONS 34 HEN. VIII.

Thanswer of John Norreys Gent. to the bill of complaynt of Robert Eme.

THE said Defendnt by ptestacon saith that the said bill of complaynt ys incerten and insuffycient in the lawe to be answered unto for dyvers causes in the said bill specyfied and the maters comprysed in the said bill of complaynt ben untrewly and slaundersusly immagyned by the said coplaynt only to the intent to put the said Defendnt to wrongfull vexacon suyt and troble in the lawe and for no just cawse and further the said defendnt for ple and answer to the said bill saith that our Sovereigne Lord the Kyng that now ys by his most gracyous L<sup>r</sup>es Patents dated Westmest<sup>r</sup> the xix day of November in the xxxij year of his most noble and victorious reigne by thadvys of his Cownsell of the Corte of thaugmenta<sup>o</sup>n of the revenewez of his most gracyous Crowne ded dymyse graunt and lete to the said John Norreys by the name of John Norreys Esquier one pasture called *Ash<sup>e</sup> Parke* conteynynge by estyma<sup>o</sup>n x acres one close of Land and Pasture callyd *Hodendale Parke* concernynge by estyma<sup>o</sup>n iiij acres one Medowe lying behind the Deyre howse conc<sup>o</sup>nyng by estyma<sup>o</sup>n one Acre Also one Medowe lying befor the Daryhouse cont<sup>o</sup>nyng by estyma<sup>o</sup>n iij Rood one other Medowe called the *Launde* lying behynd the stabylls conteynynge by estyma<sup>o</sup>n ij acres and those Felds of Land called *Toothall Fyldys* lying guyther conteynynge by estyma<sup>o</sup>n x Acres one feld of arabyll Land callyd *Park feld* conteynynge by estyma<sup>o</sup>n Forty Acres a feld of arabyll Lond callyd *Connygar fylde* cont<sup>o</sup>nyng by estyma<sup>o</sup>n forty Acres one feld of arabyll land callyd *Turnars feld* conteynynge by estyma<sup>o</sup>n forty Acres on eclose of arabyll lond callyd *Fyve Acres* and on Fylde of arabyll lond callyd *Loose feld* conteynynge by estyma<sup>o</sup>n ix acres and the Herbage and Pannage of these Wood<sup>e</sup> callyd the *Northwode* the *Busshe Parke* the *Sowthwoode* *Hamond-hill* *Stepmotherwoode* *Storme grene* and *Hardehill* all wich said p<sup>r</sup>myssez lye and bene in *Ayshrige* in the Cownty of Buks and to the late *Monasterye or Colledge of Ashridge* in the same cownty then dissolved lately did belong and appteyne and in the hand<sup>e</sup> teno<sup>r</sup>. and occupa<sup>o</sup>n of the late Recto<sup>r</sup>. of the said late Monasterye at the tyme of the Dissolu<sup>o</sup>n therof to thuse of his house were reservyd and occupied to have and to hold the forsaid Land<sup>e</sup> Medowes and Pastures and other the p<sup>r</sup>myssis w<sup>th</sup>. ther appurten<sup>o</sup>nc<sup>e</sup> to the forsaid John Norreys and his assignes from the feast of Saynt Mychell tharchn<sup>o</sup>gell next befor the date of the said Letters Patent<sup>e</sup> unto the ende and terme of xxj yeres fully to be copleted



and endyd yeldyng therfor yerely to owr said Sovereigne Lord the Kyng his Heires and successors vj<sup>th</sup>. and x<sup>d</sup>. of good and lawfull money of Ynglond at the Feast<sup>e</sup> of thannunciacon of o<sup>r</sup>. blyssyd Lady and Saynt Michell th'archaungell or w<sup>th</sup>. in on moneth next after eyther of the said Feast<sup>e</sup> to the Corte afor- said by evyn porcons to be paid as by the said Letters Patent<sup>e</sup> redye to be shewyd more playnly apith and further the said John Norreys saith that the said Pcell of lond<sup>e</sup> & tent<sup>e</sup> mencyned in the said bill of complaynt the said Dayrye House and other the said Houses Barnes and Buyldyng<sup>e</sup> mencyned in the said Bill of complaynt only excepted bene pcell of the said p<sup>r</sup>myssis dymysed and letted by o<sup>r</sup>. said Sovereigne Lord the Kyng to the said John Norreys by his most gracyous tres patent<sup>e</sup> and further the said defendnt saith that sins the said leas to hym made as ys aforsaid The said defendnt hath made too severall dymyses of the same premyssis mencyned in the said bill of complaynt the said Howses only excepted to the said compleynnt re<sup>s</sup>vyng certen rent by force of wiche Lesses the said compleynnt hath peasably taken the p<sup>r</sup>ytte and yet dothe of the same and hath payd his yerely rent and ferme therfor to the said defendnt w<sup>th</sup>. owt y<sup>t</sup>. y<sup>t</sup>. the said recto<sup>r</sup>. and covent ded dymyse and lete the said premyssis men- cyonyd in the said bill of complaynt or any pcell therof to the said cōplaynt to the knowledge of the said Defendnt in man<sup>r</sup> and forme as in the said bill of complaynt yt ys untrewly surmytted or that the said cōplaynt to the knowledge of the said defendnt ded ever delyv<sup>r</sup> any suche Indentur of Leas to the said W<sup>ill</sup>m Cavendysh to be inrolled or to any suche intent or purpose as in the said bill of compleynt yt ys also untrewly surmytted or that the said W<sup>ill</sup>m Cavendyshe to the knowlege of the said John Norrays deteyneth and kepeth from the said compleynnt any suche Indenture as in the said bill of complaynt yt ys also untrewly surmytted or that the said W<sup>ill</sup>m Cavendysh and John Norreys did e<sup>v</sup> labo<sup>r</sup>. the said cōplaynt for to grünt and selle to the said John Norreys any suche Indenture lesse and ferme as in the said bill of complaynt yt ys also untrewly surmytted or that the said John Norreys by colo<sup>r</sup>. of havynge of any suche Indenture as in the said bill of cōplaynt ys specyefyed doth dayly unquyet and perturbe the possession of the said cōplaynt in any suche wyse as in the said bill of cōplaynt yt ys untrewly surmytted or that there ys any other thing alledgid in the said bill of cōplaynt ma<sup>t</sup>iall to be answered unto and in this answer ys not confessed & avoyded or otherwise trav<sup>s</sup>ed ys trewe all wiche maters the said John Norreys wilbe redy for to prove as this honorable Corte will award and prayeth to be dysmyssed owt of the same with his reasonablecost<sup>e</sup> and expenc<sup>e</sup> to him in this behalf susteyned.

N<sup>o</sup>. III.

## PROCEEDINGS IN THE COURT OF AUGMENTATIONS 34 HEN. VIII.

To the Kinge o<sup>r</sup>. So<sup>v</sup>aign Lord.

In most humble wise compleynynge shew<sup>t</sup> unto yo<sup>r</sup>. Highnes your true and faithfull S<sup>v</sup>ant and Subject John Norres That where it hathe stonde w<sup>t</sup> the pleasure of your moost excellent Maiestie to graunt unto your said S<sup>v</sup>ant the go<sup>v</sup>nanncce and kepinge of yo<sup>r</sup>. *Graces Howse of Asshridge* in your Countie of Buk the o<sup>v</sup>rsight whereof your said S<sup>v</sup>ant by Inventory indented before your Grac<sup>e</sup> Comyssoners hathe comytted to one Olyver Lowthe his S<sup>v</sup>ant w<sup>t</sup> all suche Eviden<sup>ce</sup> mynument<sup>e</sup> and writing<sup>e</sup> lede ireon glasse lok<sup>e</sup> bolt<sup>e</sup> and hengys w<sup>t</sup>. di<sup>v</sup>se other necessaries therein remaynynge as in the said Inventory manifestly apperethe, Sithe what tyme in thabsens of the said Oliver one Robert Emys late fermer ther hathe not only broken upe the Dors where the p<sup>r</sup>misses dide remayne but hathe also at se<sup>v</sup>all and sundrye tymes imbesillid thens as well di<sup>v</sup>se Eviden<sup>ce</sup> and writing<sup>e</sup> as led iron glasse lok<sup>e</sup> bolt<sup>e</sup> and heng<sup>e</sup> w<sup>t</sup>. di<sup>v</sup>se othe<sup>r</sup> thing<sup>e</sup> therein remaynynge to no smalle value in substaunce to the no littill detrement of your highnes whiche upon ret<sup>r</sup>one of the said Olyve<sup>r</sup>. fyndinge the dores open and suspectinge it to be thacte off the said ffermer he caused your Office<sup>r</sup> the Cunstabill there to serche the howse off the said ffermer where they fflownd so well certen Writing<sup>e</sup> lede iron and glasse lok<sup>e</sup> bolt<sup>e</sup> and heng<sup>e</sup> pcell of the p<sup>r</sup>misses and as yeat to this psent your said S<sup>v</sup>ant lakithe of the p<sup>r</sup>misses to no littill substaunce which he in no wise dowlithe to be by thonly imbesillment of the said



ferme<sup>r</sup>. whiche p<sup>r</sup>misses be but of late cu<sup>m</sup>ynge to the knowledge of your said S<sup>r</sup>vaunt whiche referrethe to the moost hono<sup>r</sup>able and circu<sup>m</sup>spect discre<sup>ç</sup>on of your Maiestie desiringe so it maye stonde w<sup>th</sup>. the pleasure of your Highnes to direct your most drade L<sup>r</sup>es of Prevay unto the said Robert Emys comāundinge hym by v<sup>r</sup>tue of the same psonally to appere befor your<sup>r</sup>. grac<sup>e</sup> Counsaillers in your honorable Corte of Augmenta<sup>ç</sup>on and there to answer not only his contemptuous demeanūre ther comytted and doen unto your Maiestie but also for to discharge your said S<sup>r</sup>vant who accordinge his bownden dewtis shall dayly praye to God for the p<sup>r</sup>sva<sup>ç</sup>on of your most noble and riall estate longe to endure.

N<sup>o</sup>. IV.

## PROCEEDINGS IN THE COURT OF AUGMENTATIONS 34 HEN. VIJJ.

The Aunswere off Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme to y<sup>e</sup>. bill off Complaynt off John Norreys Esquier.

The sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>t Eme sayeth y<sup>e</sup>. y<sup>e</sup>. sayd byll off compleynt ys un<sup>c</sup>ten and insufficyent in y<sup>e</sup>. lawe to be aunswered unto and the mat<sup>r</sup> theryn conteyned ys craftely untruly and slaunderously devysed by y<sup>e</sup>. sayd compleyn<sup>n</sup>it and hys adherent<sup>e</sup> off malyce and to the intent to cloke and hyde suche hys manyfeste iniurez and wrong<sup>e</sup> done to y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme by the sayd John Norreys and by other by hys pcurement and means and for answere to the sayd byll of compleynt the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>t Eme sayethe that trouthe y<sup>e</sup>. ys that y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Oly<sup>v</sup> Louth named in the sayd byll off compleynt had and hathe the rule and go<sup>v</sup>nance off *the house off the sayd late Mones<sup>r</sup>y or Colledge* by the apoyntement off the sayd compleyn<sup>n</sup>it and also had the rule and go<sup>v</sup>nance off certen stuffe and good<sup>e</sup> beyng w<sup>th</sup>. in y<sup>e</sup>. sayd House and for that the sayd Oly<sup>v</sup> solde dy<sup>v</sup>se pcell<sup>e</sup> off the same good<sup>e</sup> and catells to many and dy<sup>v</sup>se psons and the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme thykyng verely that the sayd Oly<sup>v</sup> had good autoryte to sell suche good<sup>e</sup> ther the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme boughte off y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Oly<sup>v</sup> theyz pcell<sup>e</sup> off good<sup>e</sup> followyng that ys to say iij olde Dorez w<sup>th</sup>. the lokke upon them for the whyche the said Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme dyd truly pay unto y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Oly<sup>v</sup> vs. off lawfull money off Ynglond the whyche iij Doyrez lokke and Hook<sup>e</sup> aforesayd the sayd Oly<sup>v</sup> Louthe delyv<sup>d</sup>ed to the sayd defend w<sup>th</sup>. owte y<sup>e</sup>. the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme in y<sup>e</sup>. absence off the sayd Oli<sup>v</sup> at any tyme dyd take away the sayd Doyrez or that the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>t Eme at any tyme dyd breke the Housez off y<sup>e</sup>. sayd late Mones<sup>r</sup>y or College or the Dorez off the same or interyd into the same unlawfully in man<sup>r</sup> and forme as ys untruly surmysed in the sayd byll of compleynt or that the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme at se<sup>v</sup>all tyme or at any tyme hathe Imbeseled as well dy<sup>v</sup>se Evidenc<sup>e</sup> Wrytyng<sup>e</sup> Lede Iron Glasse lokke bolt<sup>e</sup> and heng<sup>e</sup> w<sup>th</sup>. dy<sup>v</sup>se other thyng<sup>e</sup> theryn remanyng to no smale value in substance to no lyttyll detrement off y<sup>e</sup>. Kyng<sup>e</sup> sayd Hyghnez or any pt or pcell theroff as ys untruly and slaunderusly allegyd in the sayd byll of compleynt or that the said Oli<sup>v</sup> fyndyng the Dorez off y<sup>e</sup>. sayd House open and suspectyng to be the acte off the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme caused the constable to surche the House of the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme for the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme saythe that the sayd Oly<sup>v</sup> Louthe off hys owen wrong w<sup>th</sup>.oute any cause the same Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme beyng the Kyng<sup>e</sup> constable off that Towne and pysche where the sayd late Monas<sup>r</sup>y or College ys off hys owen wrong and malycyus mynd most lykely by y<sup>e</sup>. commandent of the sayd complaynant interyd into the house off the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme beyng a dary house pcell of the sayd late Mones<sup>r</sup>y or College and y<sup>e</sup>. very ppre ferme for certen yerez yet to cume off the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme and than and ther moste inicestely vyolently and forcibly arestyed the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme and Elezabeth hys Wyff and dy<sup>v</sup>se other beyng s<sup>r</sup>vāit<sup>e</sup> off the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme than and ther beyng in the house off the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme for felony sayeng they were fellows and had comytted felony where no suche felony was and than and ther them and e<sup>v</sup>y off them moste unlawfully dyd arest for felony and imp<sup>r</sup>soned se<sup>v</sup>ally and in se<sup>v</sup>al chamb<sup>r</sup>z w<sup>th</sup>. in y<sup>e</sup>. sayd late Mones<sup>r</sup>y or College and ther the Wyff off the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme was kepte in p<sup>r</sup>son by the space off ij dayez and ij nyght<sup>e</sup> by y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Oly<sup>v</sup> wherby the sayd Elezabeth ys lykely by suche durans off Imp<sup>r</sup>sonment to dye and also y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Oly<sup>v</sup> kept and deteyned the sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme in p<sup>r</sup>son by y<sup>e</sup>. space off a nyghte and one day or ther about<sup>e</sup> and kepte the s<sup>r</sup>vāit<sup>e</sup> off y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Ro<sup>b</sup>te Eme in p<sup>r</sup>son ther unlafully y<sup>e</sup>. ys to say



Thomas Saunders Elyce Ball Arthur Dagnall and Agnez Stambryge by y<sup>e</sup>. space of x ourez or therabout  
 & so cruelly dyd Intreate y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Arthur Dagnall beyng a chylde off y<sup>e</sup>. age off xij yere in suche facyon  
 and man<sup>r</sup> insomuche y<sup>t</sup>. he dyd hang y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Arthur uppe by the hande and aft<sup>r</sup> y<sup>t</sup>. the sayd Olyv<sup>r</sup> had  
 thus arestd and imp<sup>r</sup>soned the sayd Robte Eme and other before namyd for felony as before ys sayd y<sup>e</sup>.  
 sayd Olyv<sup>r</sup> dyd lette them goo at large wyllyngly and aft<sup>r</sup> y<sup>t</sup>. for that the said Olyv<sup>r</sup> pseyved hys owen  
 wrong and hym repented off that y<sup>t</sup>. he had so done insomuche y<sup>t</sup>. he the sayd Olyv<sup>r</sup> intreated the mat<sup>r</sup>  
 and wolde have had the mat<sup>r</sup> in cop<sup>r</sup>myse and yet aft<sup>r</sup>ward the sayd Olyv<sup>r</sup> w<sup>t</sup>. thyez iniurez not contented  
 came before the Kyng<sup>e</sup> grace Justyc<sup>e</sup> of assyse and gaole delyv<sup>y</sup> in that ptyez y<sup>t</sup>. ys to say before y<sup>e</sup>.  
 Lord Cheyff Justyce of Yngland and the Lord Cheyff Justys off the Comon Place Justyc<sup>e</sup> off Assyse and  
 gaole delyv<sup>y</sup> in y<sup>e</sup>. sayd ptyes & Counte of Bukkyngghm wher the sayd late Monest<sup>y</sup> or College ys and  
 than and ther layd felony to the sayd Elezabeth for takyng off certen good<sup>e</sup> oute off the sayd House or  
 late Monest<sup>y</sup> & put in dyv<sup>s</sup>e byllez ther afore the sayd Justyc<sup>e</sup> off Felony agenst the sayd Elezabeth  
 Wyff off the sayd defend and other the sayd s<sup>v</sup>nt<sup>e</sup> of the sayd defend Robte Eme whyche byllez were  
 not found by the xij men bycause the mat<sup>r</sup> was not true nor wolde s<sup>v</sup>e by y<sup>e</sup>. lawez of thys Realme as the  
 Kyng<sup>e</sup> Justyc<sup>e</sup> ther declared nother agenst the sayd Robte Eme nor agenst the sayd Elizabeth and the  
 other sayd psons s<sup>v</sup>nt<sup>e</sup> to the sayd Robte Eme nor agenst any off them nor ony suche mat<sup>r</sup> was or coude  
 be pved and the sayd Robte Eme sayeth that yff y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Olyv<sup>r</sup> lakkythe ony good<sup>e</sup> or cattells y<sup>t</sup>. were  
 w<sup>t</sup>. in the sayd late Monest<sup>y</sup> or house the sayd Olyv<sup>r</sup> hathe them hymself or canne tell where he hathe done  
 them or solde them as the sayd defend supposythe and the Robte Eme sayeth y<sup>t</sup>. by vertue of a Covent  
 Seale whyche he the sayd Robte Eme hathe off the sayd late go<sup>v</sup>ner and Covent of the sayd late Mo-  
 nest<sup>y</sup> or College whyche Covent Seale ys off ye demyse and lesse off y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Dary House and other  
 ten Land<sup>e</sup> and Tent<sup>e</sup> as it aperyth by a byll off Compleynt<sup>e</sup> exhybyt<sup>e</sup> in thys Honorable Court<sup>e</sup> for  
 the same agenst the sayd John Norreys and Wyffm Candysche by y<sup>e</sup>. whyche lesse the sayd Robte Eme  
 haythe a good autoryte to en<sup>t</sup>. into the sayd Monest<sup>y</sup> or House and free Eygress and Regresse into  
 y<sup>e</sup>. same whyche sayd Covent Seale ys wrongfully deteyned and w<sup>t</sup>. holden firo the sayd Robt Eme by  
 y<sup>e</sup>. sayd John Norreys w<sup>t</sup>. oute y<sup>t</sup>. there was ony Constable at y<sup>e</sup>. sayd unlauffull surchyng off the house  
 off y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Robt Eme by y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Olyv<sup>r</sup> but onely the sayd Robte Eme hym self as ys untruly allegyd  
 in the sayd byll off compleynt or that ther lakkythe ony glasse Iron good<sup>e</sup> or Cattell<sup>e</sup> oute off y<sup>e</sup>. sayd  
 Monest<sup>y</sup> or College by y<sup>e</sup>. imbasyment off y<sup>e</sup>. sayd Robte Eme or by ony other hys Wyff or s<sup>v</sup>nt<sup>e</sup> as  
 ys untruly allegyd in the sayd byll off compleynt or y<sup>t</sup>. ony other thyng mat<sup>r</sup>yall or answerable in the  
 sayd byll of cop<sup>r</sup>leynt allegyd and not by thys aunswere confessed avoyded trav<sup>s</sup>ed or denyed ys true all  
 whyche mat<sup>r</sup>z the sayd Robt Eme ys redy to averre and pve as thys honorable Court shall award and  
 prayeth to be dysmyssed oute off the same w<sup>t</sup>. hys reasonable Cost<sup>e</sup> damag<sup>e</sup> for hys wrongfull vexacyon  
 by hym susteyned in thys behalf.



## A P P E N D I X.

### Nº. III.

#### ARMORIAL BEARINGS,

[*Referred to, in the last Section of the preceding History.*]

THE south division of the frieze, opposite the entrance, and under the music gallery, contains twenty-one shields, whereon are depicted the armorial ensigns of royal and illustrious personages, from whom the Earl of Bridgewater is lineally descended, as will appear by the annexed Table.

IN THE CENTRE ARE,

1. The Royal Arms of King Henry the Seventh, *Quarterly, France and England*, impaling the like bearings for his Queen, Elizabeth of York. The distinguished privilege of quartering these Arms, without difference, in consequence of the extinction of issue from King Henry the Eighth, devolved, in 1625, upon John, Viscount Brackley, afterwards second Earl of Bridgewater, in right of his mother Frances, who died in that year and was one of the daughters and heirs of Ferdinando Stanley, Earl of Derby, the son of Henry, Earl of Derby, by Margaret Clifford, who was sole heir to her mother, Eleanor, Countess of Cumberland, daughter and heir of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, by the Princess Mary, relict of Lewis XII. King of France, and daughter of King Henry the Seventh.  
Six Shields, diverging from the dexter of the Royal Achievement, represent the illustrious line of York, ascending from the Queen of Henry VII. viz.
2. The Royal Arms of King Edward IV. *Quarterly, France and England*, impaling those of his Queen, Elizabeth Widvile, viz. 1. *Argent, a Lion rampant, queueé forché Gules, crowned Sable*, being the Arms of her mother's father, Peter of Luxembourg, Count of St. Paul: 2. *Quarterly, Gules an Estoile Argent, and Azure semée of fleurs de lis Or*, for Baux, being the Arms of the Queen's grandmother, Margaret, daughter of Francis de Baux, Duke of Andree: 3. *Barry of ten, Argent and Azure, over all a Lion rampant Gules*, for Lusignan: 4. *Gules, three bendlets Argent, a chief party per fess Argent charged with a red Rose, and Or*, for Ursins: 5. *Gules, three pallets vair, on a Chief Or a Label of five points Azure*, for St. Paul; and, 6. *Argent, a Fess and Canton, Gules*, for her paternal Coat of Widvile.
3. Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, *Quarterly, France and England, differenced by a Label of three points Argent each point charged with three torteaux*, impaling the Arms of Cecilia Nevil, his Wife, viz. *Gules a Saltire Argent*.
4. Richard Plantagenet, Earl of Cambridge—the Arms of his Father, as above, *within a bordure Argent charged with ten Lions rampant purpure*, impaling the Arms of Anne Mortimer, his Wife, viz. *Quarterly, 1st. and 4th., Barry of six, Or and Azure, on a Chief, of the first, two pallets between as many squares base dexter and sinister, of the second, an inescutcheon Argent*, for Mortimer; 2nd. and 3rd. *Or, a Cross Gules*, for Burgh.
5. Roger Mortimer, Earl of March.—Mortimer and Burgh, as before, impaling the Arms of Eleanor Holland, his Wife, viz. *England, within a bordure Argent*.



6. Edmond Mortimer, Earl of March. Mortimer, as before, impaling the Arms of his Countess, Philippa Plantagenet, viz. *Quarterly, France and England*, differenced by a *Label of three points Argent*, each charged with a *Canton Gules*.

7. Lionel Plantagenet of Antwerp, Duke of Clarence. The Royal Arms, differenced as the last, impaling those of his Consort, Elizabeth de Burgh, *Or a Cross Gules*.

Four Shields, diverging from the Sinister of the Royal Achievement, are of the illustrious line of Lancaster, ascending from King Henry the Seventh.

8. Edmond Tudor, Earl of Richmond. *Quarterly, France and England*, within a *bordure Azure*, charged with *Fleurs de Lis and Martlets*, alternately, *Or*, impaling the Arms of Margaret Beaufort, his Wife, viz. *France and England*, within a *bordure gobony Argent and Azure*.
9. John de Beaufort, Duke of Somerset. Beaufort, as before, impaling the Arms of his Wife, Margaret Beauchamp, viz. *Gules, a Fess between six Martlets Or*, and a *Mullet for difference*.
10. John de Beaufort, Earl of Somerset. Beaufort, as before, impaling the Arms of Margaret Holland, his Wife, *England within a bordure Argent*.
11. John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster. *Quarterly, France and England*, differenced by a *Label of three points Ermine*, impaling Roet, viz. *Gules, three Katherine Wheels Or*, being the Arms of his third Wife, Katherine Swynford.

The remaining Shields are selections from among the illustrious Ancestors of the Earl of Bridgewater.

## ON THE DEXTER SIDE.

12. William Paulet, Marquess of Winchester. *Sable, three Swords in pile proper, pomels and hilts Or*, impaling the Arms of Elizabeth Capel, his Wife, viz. *Gules, a Lion rampant Or between three Cross Crosslets fitchée Argent*.
13. William Cavendish, Duke of Newcastle. *Quarterly 1st. and 4th. Cavendish, Sable, three bucks heads caboshed Argent, attired Or*; 2d. and 3d. Ogle, *Argent a Fess between three Crescents Gules*: impaling the Arms of Elizabeth Basset, his Wife, *Or, three Piles Gules, on a Canton Argent a Grifphon segreant Sable*.
14. Edward Stanley, Earl of Derby. *Quarterly 1. Stanley, Argent, on a bend Azure three bucks heads caboshed Or*; 2. Man, *Gules three legs coupéd and conjoined at the thighs in Armour Argent*. 3. Brandon, *Barry of ten Argent and Gules, a Lion rampant Or, crowned party per pale of the first and second, with Clifford on a Canton, Checqué Or and Azure, a fess Gules*; 4. *France and England quarterly*: impaling the Arms of Dorothy Howard, his Wife, 1. Howard, *Gules, on a bend, between six Cross Crosslets fitchée Argent, the Augmentation of part of the Scottish Arms*; 2. Brotherton, *England, differenced by a label of three points Argent*; 3. Warren, *Checqué, Or, and Azure*; 4. Mowbray, *Gules, a Lion rampant Argent*.
15. John Egerton, Earl of Bridgewater. *Argent a Lion rampant Gules between three Pheons Sable, a bordure engrailed of the last*; impaling the Arms of Frances Stanley, his Countess, the quarterings of Stanley as before.

## ON THE SINISTER SIDE.

16. Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. Brandon, as before, impaling the Royal Arms, for the Princess Mary Tudor, his Consort.
17. Henry Clifford, Earl of Cumberland. Clifford, as before, impaling the Arms of his Wife, Eleanor Brandon: Brandon, as before, and the Royal Arms, quarterly.
18. Sir John de Grey. *Quarterly, 1. Grey de Ruthin, Barry of six Argent and Azure, in chief three torteaux*; 2. Hastings, *Or, a Maunch Gules*; 3. Valence, *Barry of twelve, Argent and Azure, an Orle of Martlets Gules*; 4th. as 1st. impaling the Arms of Constance Holland, his Wife, *England, within a bordure Azure, semée of fleurs de lis Or*.
19. William Cecil, Lord Burghley. Cecil, *Barry of ten, Argent and Azure, six escocheons, three*



*two and one, Sable, each charged with a Lion rampant of the second, impaling the arms of his first Wife, Mary Cheeke, Argent three Crescents Gules.*

20. William Bentinck, Earl of Portland. *Azure, a Cross moline Argent; impaling the Arms of Jane Temple, his second Wife, viz. Sable, a Cheveron Ermine between three Martlets Argent.*  
 21. John Egerton, Lord Bishop of Durham. Egerton, as before, without the bordure, impaling the Arms of Anna-Sophia de Grey, his Wife. viz. 1. De Grey, *Barry of six, Argent and Azure.*  
 2. Hastings. 3. Valence. 4. Lucas, *Argent a Fess between six Annulets Gules.*

The East Division of the Frieze contains forty-four Shields, commencing at the South East Angle of the Hall, whereon are depicted the several quarterings of Stanley, to which the Earl of Bridgewater is entitled in right of his descent from that noble House, viz.

1. Stanley, *Argent, on a bend Azure three bucks heads caboshed Or.* 2. Aldithley, *Gules, fretty Or, a label of three points Azure.* 3. Baumville, *Or, on a Chief Gules three trefoils slipped Argent.*  
 4. Stourton, *Argent, a Tree eradicated Vert.* 5. Latham, *Or, on a Chief indented Azure three plates.*  
 6. Man, *Three Legs, coupé and conjoined at the Thighs in armour Argent.* 7. Gowsell, *Barry of six, Or and Gules, a Canton Ermine.* 8. Fitzalan, *Argent, a Chief Azure.* 9. Albiney, *Gules, a Lion rampant Or.* 10. St. Hilary, *Argent, on a Chief Azure two Saltires coupé Or.* 11. Kevelioc, *Azure, six Garbs, three two and one, Or.* 12. Gernons, *Gules, a Lion rampant Argent.* 13. Meschines, *Or, a Lion rampant Gules.* 14. Lupus, *Azure, a Wolf's head erased Argent.* 15. Algar, *Sable, an Eagle displayed Or.* 16. Hamelin, *Azure, semée of fleurs de lis Or, a bordure Gules charged with eight Lions passant guardant of the second.* 17. Warren, *Chequé Or and Azure.* 18. Marshal, *Per pale Or and Vert, a Lion rampant Gules.* 19. Marshal, *Gules, a bend lozengy Or.* 20. Strongbow, *Argent, on a Chief Azure three Crosses patée fitchée of the Field.* 21. Clare, *Or, three Chevronels Gules.* 22. Gifford, *Gules, three Lions passant in pale Argent.* 23. M'Murrough, *Sable, three Garbs Argent.* 24. Strange, *Gules, two Lions passant in pale Argent.* 25. Somery, *Or, two Lions passant in pale Azure.* 26. Albiney, *as before.* 27. Kevelioc. 28. Gernons. 29. Meschines. 30. Lupus.  
 31. Algar. 32. Montalt, *Azure, a Lion rampant Argent.* 33. Mohun, *Or, a Cross engrailed Sable.*  
 34. Mohun, *Gules, a Maunch Ermine, therefrom a hand proper grasping a fleur de lis Or.* 35. Brewer, *Gules, two bendlets wavy Or.* 36. Widvile, *Quarterly, 1st. and 4th. Argent, a Fess and Canton Gules, 2nd. and 3rd. Gules, an Eagle displayed Or.* 37. Bedlesgate, *Or, on a bend Sable, three Mallets Argent.* 38. Beauchamp, *Varry Argent and Azure.* 39. Brandon, *Barry of ten, Argent and Gules, a Lion rampant Or ducally crowned per pale of the first and second, with Clifford on a Canton, Chequé Or and Azure, a fess Gules.* 40. Brune, *Azure, a Cross moline Or.* 41. Rokele, *Lozengy Ermine and Gules.* 42. Pole, *Azure, a Fess between three Leopards faces Or.* 43. Handlo, *Argent, a Lion rampant, Azure, gutté d'eau, ducally crowned Or.* 44. King Henry VII., *Quarterly, France and England.*

The West Division of the Frieze contains also forty-four Shields, commencing at the South West Angle of the Hall, and terminating under the great Window, whereon are represented the several Quarterings of the noble House of Grey, to which the Earl of Bridgewater is entitled in virtue of his maternal descent.

1. Grey, *Barry of six Argent and Azure.* 2. Fitzosborn, *Gules, a bend Argent over all a Fess Or.*  
 3. Yvery, *Or, three Chevronels Gules.* 4. Pontdelarch, *Argent, semée of Cross Crosslets, a Lion rampant purpure.* 5. Bardolph, *Azure, three Cinquefoils Or.* 6. Grey of Eton, *Barry of six Argent and Azure, a Label of five points Gules.* 7. Glanville, *Argent, a Chief indented Azure.* 8. Fitzhugh, *Azure, three Chevrons interlaced, a Chief Or.* 9. Longchamp, *Or, three Crescents Gules, each charged with a Mullet pierced Argent.* 10. Grey de Ruthyn, *Barry of six Argent and Azure, in chief three torteaux.* 11. Hastings, *Or, a Maunch Gules.* 12. Scot, or Huntingdon, *Or, three Piles Gules.* 13. Scotland, *Or, a Lion rampant within a double tressure flowered and counterflowered Gules.* 14. Saxon Kings, *Azure, a Cross flory between five Martlets Or.* 15. Waltheof, *Argent, a Lion rampant Azure, a Chief Gules.* 16. Aldred, *Paly, and barry indented, of six, Argent and Gules.* 17. Kevelioc, *as before.* 18. Gernons,



as before. 19. Meschines, as before. 20. Lupus, as before. 21. Algar, as before. 22. Cantilupe, Gules, three Leopards faces jessant de lis Or. 23. Brewse, Barry of six, Vairé Gules and Ermine, and Azure. 24. Milo, Gules, two bendlets, the one Or, the other Argent. 25. Newmarch, Gules, a Fess fusily Or. 26. Totenais, Or, two Lions passant guardant Gules. 27. Brewer, Gules, two bendlets wavy Sable. 28. Marshal, as before. 29. Marshal, as before. 30. Strongbow, as before. 31. Clare, as before. 32. Gifford, as before. 33. M<sup>c</sup>. Murrrough, as before. 34. Valence, Barry of twelve Argent and Azure, an Orle of Martlets Gules. 35. Engoulesme, Bendy of ten, Sable and Argent. 36. Boteville, Barry of ten, Or and Sable, a Label of five points Azure. 37. Montchency, Argent, three Escocheons barry of six, Vair and Gules. 38. Marshal, as before. 39. Marshal, as before. 40. Strongbow, as before. 41. Clare, as before. 42. Lucas, Argent, a Fess between six Annulets Gules. 43. Moneux, Gules, a Bend Argent, billety Sable. 44. Brampton, Gules, a Saltire between four Cross Crosslets fitchée Argent.

## WEST SIDE OF THE HALL.

Five Shields on the Ogee Branches, viz.

1. On that nearest the Window are the Arms of Thomas Egerton, Viscount Brackley and Lord Ellesmere, Lord High Chancellor of England, viz. 1st. and 4th. Egerton. *Argent, a Lion rampant, Gules between three Pheons Sable*; 2nd. and 3rd. Basset of Blore, (as borne by him) *Or, three Piles Gules, on a Canton Argent a Grifon segreant Sable*; all within a bordure engrailed of the last: impaling the Arms of his first Wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Ravenscroft of Bretton, (by whom only he had issue.) *Argent, a Cheveron between three Ravens Heads erased Sable.*
2. The Arms of John Egerton, the first Earl of Bridgewater, Son and Heir of the said Thomas, Viscount Brackley, by Elizabeth Ravenscroft, viz. Egerton singly, within the bordure as before, impaling the Arms of Frances, his Wife, daughter and coheir of Ferdinando Stanley, Earl of Derby. *Argent, on a bend Azure three Bucks Heads caboshed Or.*
3. The Arms of John Egerton, second Earl of Bridgewater, Son and Heir of John, the first Earl, by Frances Stanley, viz. Egerton (without the bordure, he being the first of the Family who appears by the Records to have omitted it)—quartering Stanley, and impaling the Arms of Elizabeth, his Wife, second daughter of William Cavendish, Duke of Newcastle. *Sable, three Stags Heads caboshed, two and one, Argent, attired Or.*
4. The Arms of John Egerton, third Earl of Bridgewater, Son and Heir of John, the second Earl, by Elizabeth Cavendish, viz. Egerton quartering Stanley, as before, and impaling the Arms of Jane, his second Wife, daughter of Charles Paulet, Duke of Bolton. *Sable, three Swords in pile, proper, pomels and hilts Or.*
5. The Arms of Scroope Egerton, fourth Earl and first Duke of Bridgewater, Son and Heir of John, the third Earl, by Jane Paulet, viz. Egerton quartering Stanley, as before, and impaling the Arms of Rachel, his second Wife, daughter of Wriothsley Russel, Duke of Bedford. *Argent, a Lion rampant Gules, on a Chief Sable three Escallops of the Field.*

## EAST SIDE OF THE HALL.

Five Shields on the Ogee Branches, viz.

1. The Arms of John Egerton, second Duke and fifth Earl of Bridgewater, Son and Heir of the first Duke, by Rachel Russel, viz. Egerton quartering Stanley, as before.
2. The Arms of Francis Egerton, third Duke and sixth Earl of Bridgewater, Brother and Heir of John, the second Duke, viz. Egerton quartering Stanley, as before.
3. The Arms of Henry Egerton, Lord Bishop of Hereford, fifth, but third surviving Son of John, the third Earl, by Jane Paulet, eldest daughter of Charles Duke of Bolton, viz. Egerton quartering Stanley, a Mullet for difference, and impaling the Arms of Elizabeth-Ariana, his Wife, daughter of William Bentinck, Earl of Portland. *Azure, a Cross moline Argent.*



4. The Arms of John Egerton, Lord Bishop of Durham, Son and Heir of Henry, Lord Bishop of Hereford, by Elizabeth-Ariana Bentinck, viz. Egerton quartering Stanley, with the difference as before, and impaling the Arms of Anne-Sophia, his Wife, daughter and at length coheir of Henry de Grey, Duke of Kent. *Barry of six Argent and Azure.*
5. The Arms of John-William Egerton, seventh Earl of Bridgewater, Son and Heir of John, Lord Bishop of Durham, by Anne-Sophia de Grey, and Heir Male of Francis, the third Duke, viz. Quarterly 1st. and 4th. Egerton, 2nd. Stanley, 3rd. Grey, impaling the Arms borne by the Family of Charlotte-Catherine-Anne, Countess of Bridgewater, his Wife, daughter and heir of Samuel Haynes, Esquire, viz. *Or, on a Fess Gules three Plates, in Chief a Greyhound current Azure, collared of the First.*

In the Pediment over the Great Window of the Hall are the Arms of Edmund of Almaine, Earl of Cornwall, Founder of the Cœnobium of Ashridge, on a Shield pendent from the beak of an Eagle (in memory of his Father, Richard, King of the Romans, second Son of John, King of England.) *Argent a Lion rampant Gules ducally crowned Or*, being the Arms of Poictou, of which Province he was Earl, *within a bordure Sable, bezantée*, the Arms of Cornwall.

In the opposite Pediment, over the Musick Gallery, are the Arms of the College or Cœnobium of Ashridge, viz. *Gules, on an Altar-Tomb a Lamb passant guardant Argent, carrying a Banner of the last charged with a Cross of the First, the dexter fore-foot resting on a Mound Or.*













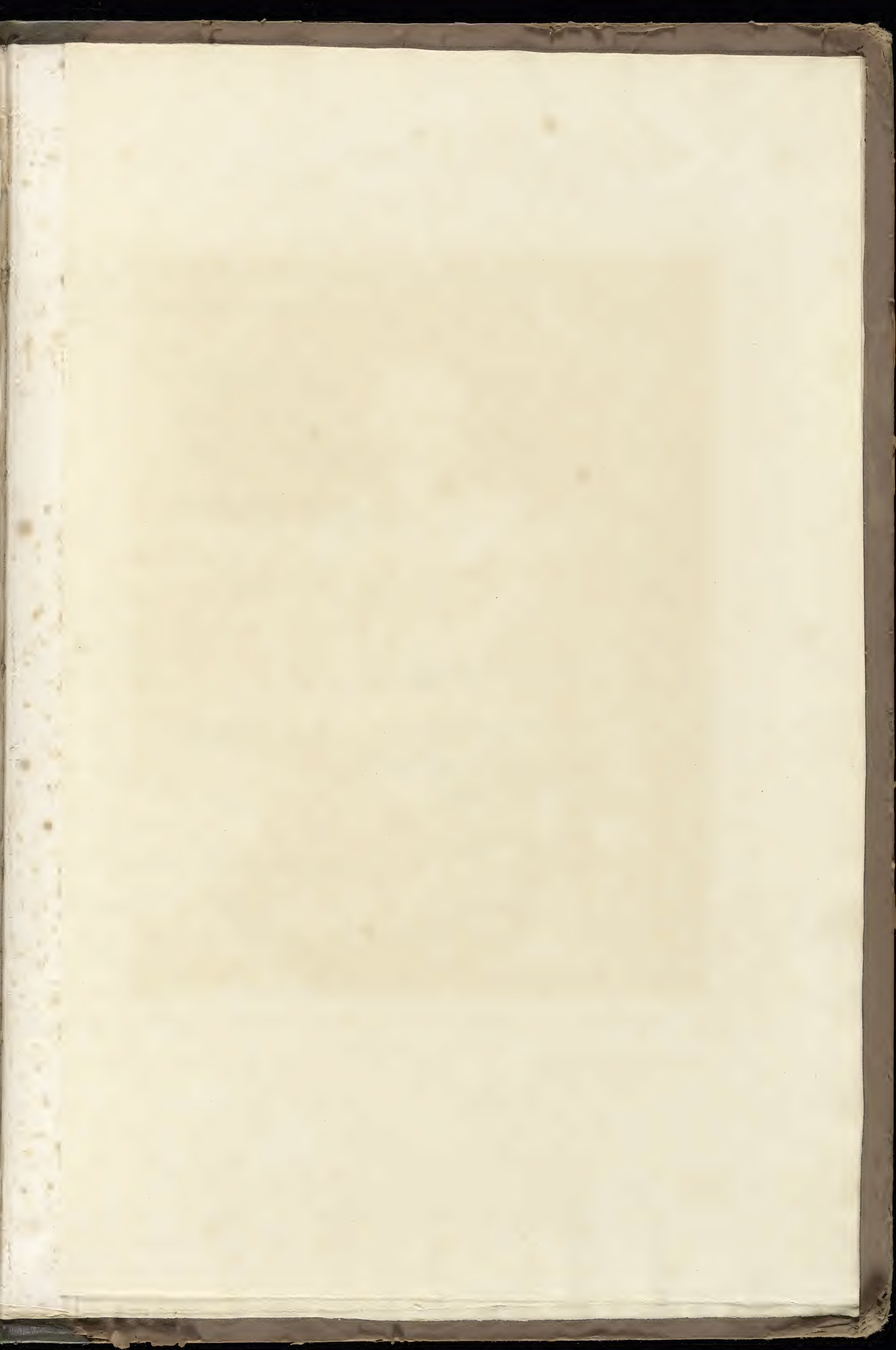
*Painted by W. Owen, R.A.*

*Engraved by S. W. Reynolds*  
*Engraver to the King*

JOHN WILLIAM, SEVENTH EARL OF BRIDGEWATER.

*Published August 1<sup>st</sup> 1825 by R. Gilbert, St. John's Square.*







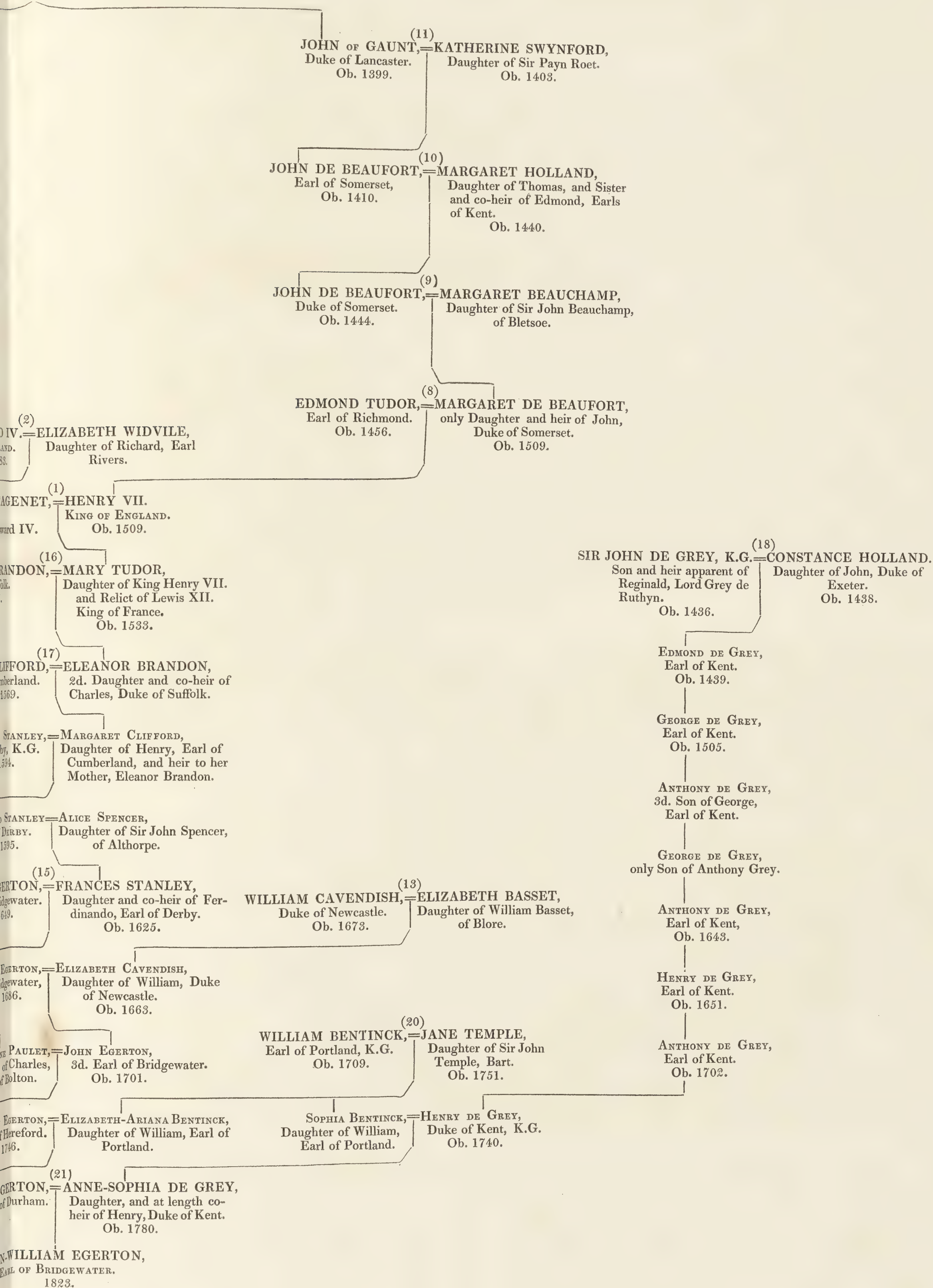




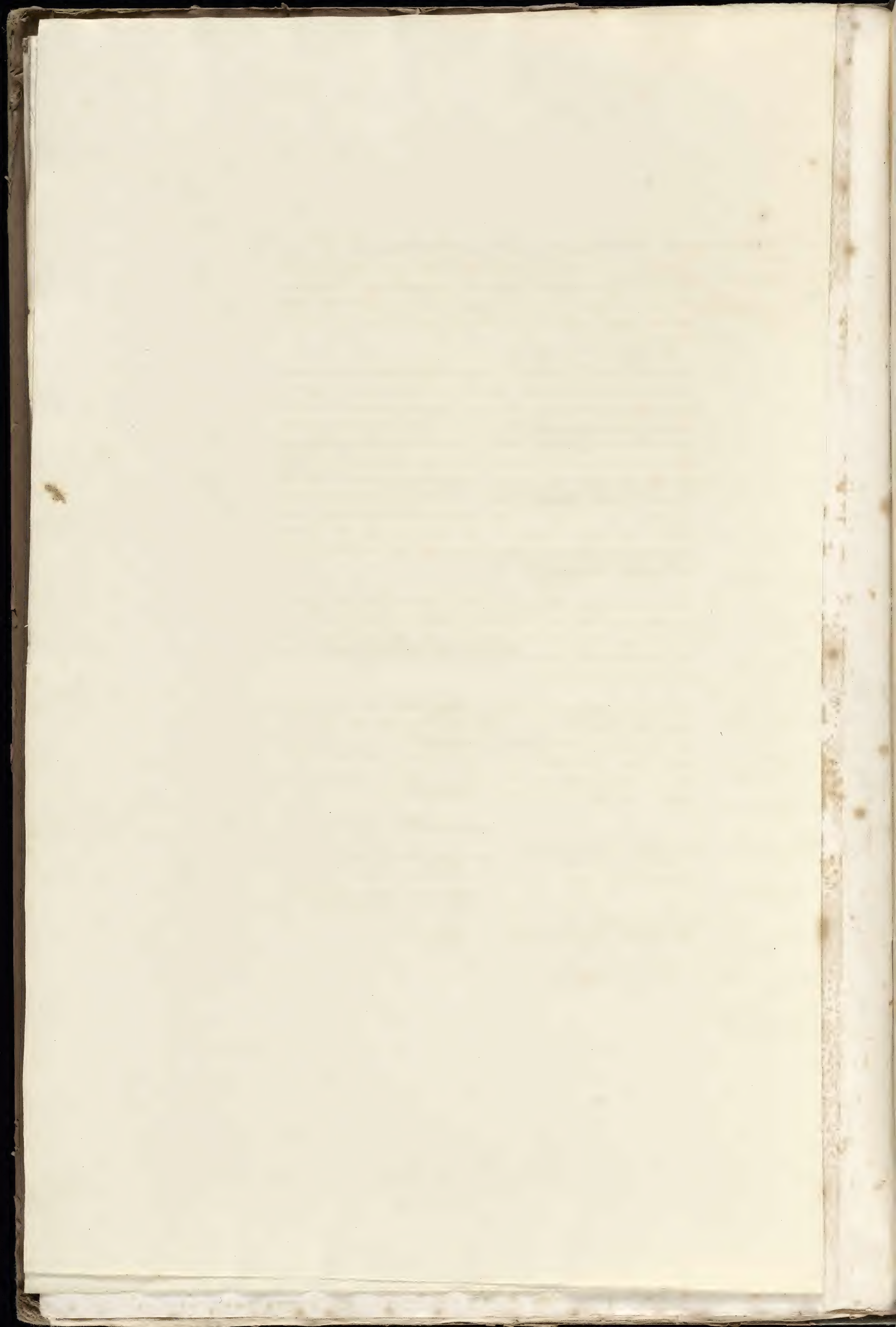
*several Armorial Bearings in the pages immediately preceding this Table.*

ward III.

OF ENGLAND.  
Ob. 1377.









THE preceding pages were scarcely finished, when the noble owner of Ashridge was lost to the world. And great indeed has been that loss. For though the EARL OF BRIDGEWATER had attained the Scriptural limitation "of our age to threescore years and ten," society would have rejoiced to witness the continuance of his useful life to the utmost extent of human strength.

The respect, which was paid to him even by persons of opposite opinions, at once bespeaks the general estimation of his character. To his zeal and discretion, indeed, as a magistrate; to his liberality, in executing works of publick utility; to his taste, in improving local scenery; and to his discernment, in promoting every effort of honest diligence; the country round his residence has been deeply indebted. From his judicious benevolence the industrious poor derived credit as well as comfort to themselves and families; since while their industry was amply encouraged by him, their morals also by his means were improved. And as in his bounty he was never influenced by ostentation, so in his general demeanour he was condescending as well as kind to all. To frankness and warmth of heart he united so much real humility, that when he had gratified the suitor with the advantage which had been sought, he wished to shun even the tribute of common thanks, and for his kindness preferred silence to publick acknowledgement.

His time was rarely past without benefit to others. The best of his days were employed in advancing plans, which were to serve either his tenantry, or his neighbourhood, or the country at large. Activity indeed from his youth upwards distinguished him, and left him only in the last year of his life, when illness first confined him to his chair, then to his bed, and finally brought him to the grave.

He died, as he had lived, with the hope of a sincere Christian; and bore the painful disease, that overpowered him, with the patience and fortitude which that hope so abundantly supplies. In the Christian school too he had learned real charity: no man sooner forgave an injury. In domestick life he was affectionate, and cheerfully attentive to all its duties; and in his intercourse with society desirous to recommend and enforce, by his own example, the advantage of adhering strictly to the principles of right:

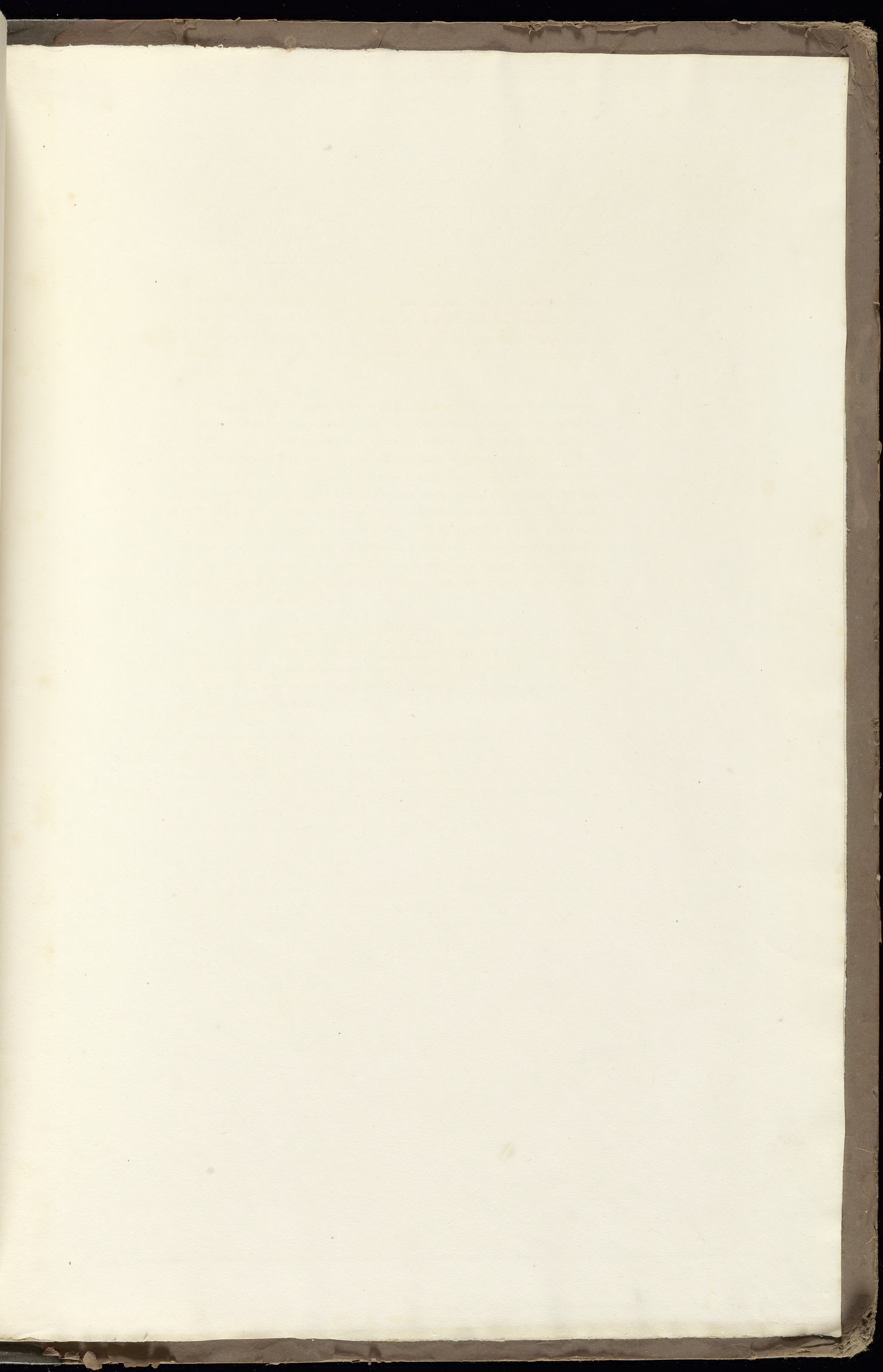
"Just of his word, in every thought sincere."

He was a true friend to the Church of England, and a valuable member of the State; anxiously promoting many excellent institutions, originated by the former; and in respect to the latter proving himself, through a long period, a firm supporter of those judicious measures, which, under Providence, have not only saved the country from disgrace and ruin, but have raised it to an unexampled height of glory and prosperity.

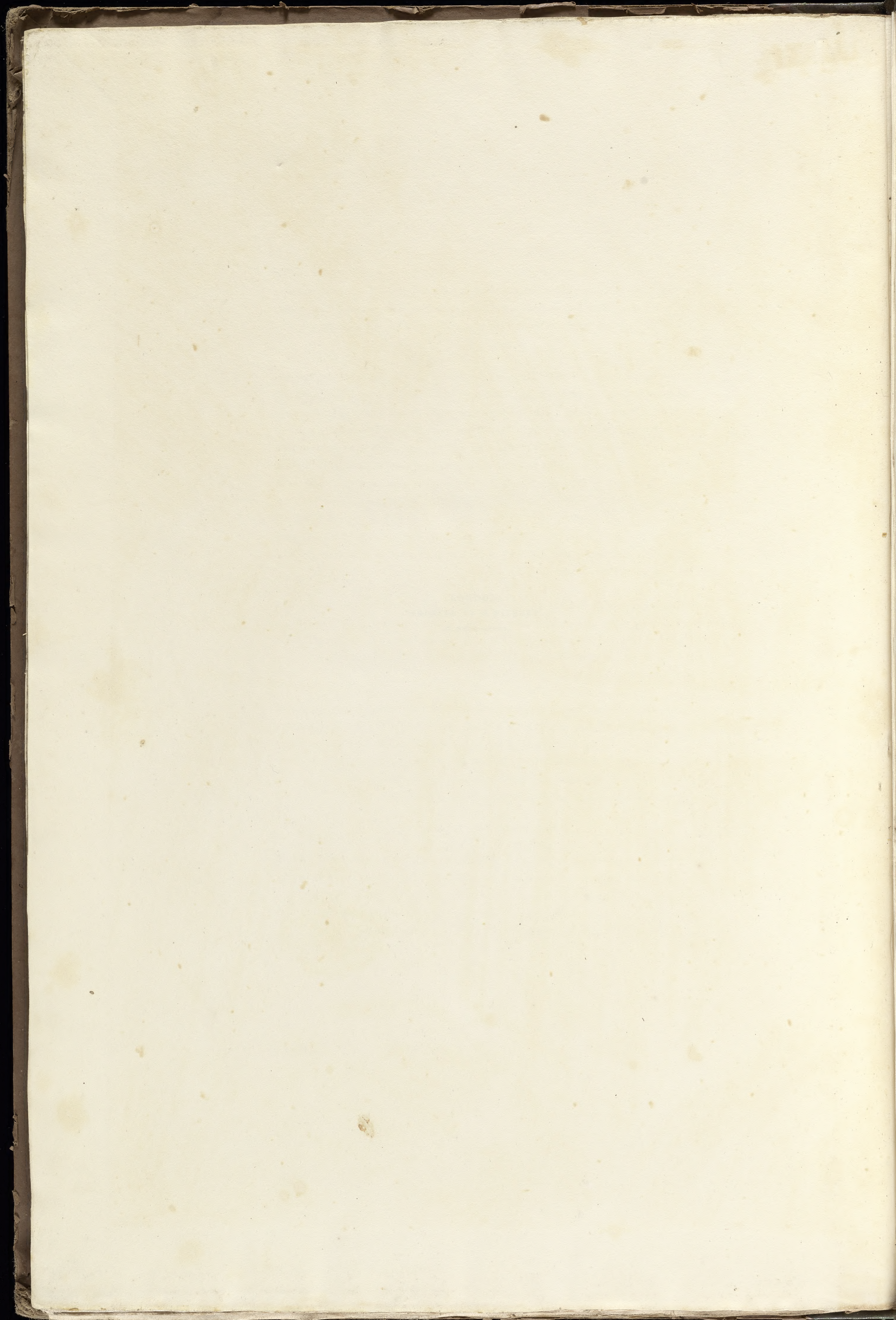


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